

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LII.]

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CONTENTS.

Epitome of the Week, &c.	261
Leading Articles:—	
The Crisis and the Election	262
The Powers and China	262
The End of the Inland Waters Farce	263
The Chinese Imperial Policy	263
Market Accommodation in Hongkong	264
Malaria and Local Sanitation	264
The Crisis: Telegrams	265
Hongkong Legislative Council	265
The Crisis in China	267
The Arms Ordinance	237
Disastrous Fire at Yaumati	267
Disgraceful Conduct of British Blue-Jackets	267
Extraordinary Kidnapping Case	268
The Fatal Coolie Quarrel at East Point	268
The Portuguese Festivities at Macao	268
Royal Naval Canteen	269
Canton	269
Wuchow	269
Tientsin	270
Sandakan Notes	270
Manila	270
Correspondence	271
The Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	271
China Traders' Insurance Company, Limited	272
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	272
Jelebu Mining and Trading Company, Limited	273
The Yokohama Specie Bank, Limited	273
Hongkong Polo Club	273
Hongkong Volunteer Corps	274
Hongkong Football Club	274
Queen's College Aquatic Sports	274
Consular Report	274
Some Straits Settlements Figures	275
A Russian Account of Taku	275
Russian Forces in the Amur district	275
A Trans-Pacific Shipowner's Combine	275
Terrible Ending of a Village Festival	275
Extensive Opium Smuggling at Rangoon	275
Hongkong and Port News	275
Commercial	278
Shipping	279

BIRTHS.

At Chemulpo, on the 19th September, Mrs. J. L. CHALMERS, of a daughter.

At the Elms, 141, Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai, on the 26th September, 1900, the wife of MAX. P. HOEBER, of a daughter.

At the Peak, Hongkong, on the 27th September, the wife of J. B. PATERSON, of a son.

At 3, Kimberley Villas, Kowloon, on the 28th September, the wife of ALEX. MACKENZIE, of a son.

On the 30th September, 1900, at Wellburn, the Peak, the wife of C. W. DICKSON, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 15th September, at Moxee, North Yakima, JOHN A. MACKAY, of Hongkong and Edderton-Tain, Ross-shire, to ANNIE GORDON, youngest daughter of the late John P. CAMERON, Milton of Findon, Ross-shire, N.B.

DEATHS.

At the General Hospital, Shanghai, 27th September, 1900, of acute tuberculosis, HENRY STANDISH FOBES, age 25 years, only son of A. S. FOBES, Esq., Shanghai.

At Bombay, on the 29th September, in the afternoon, PALANJI FRAMJI TALATI, aged 52, elder brother of Pestonji Framji TALATI, of Hongkong. Deeply regretted. By telegram.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 24th August arrived, per M. M. steamer *Laos*, on the 30th September (37 days); the Canadian mail of the 10th September arrived, per C. P. R. steamer *Empress of China*, on the 2nd Oct. (22 days); and the German mail of the 3rd September arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Ollenburg*, on the 3rd October (30 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The news of the week about the Chinese crisis will be found in the telegrams from our correspondents on p. 265.

Sir Ernest Satow arrived in Shanghai from Japan on Saturday last.

The Viceroy of the Shen-Kan province has been transferred to Canton.

A mixed naval and military force of the allies has gone to Shanhaikwan.

A report from Peking states that the Italian troops are leaving the Chinese capital.

The *St. Petersburg Official Messenger* positively denies the annexation of Manchuria by Russia.

Mr. W. R. Carles, H. B. M. Consul at Tientsin, has left Shanghai for England on account of ill-health.

The P. & O. *Socotra* is bringing out 139 tons of cartridges, filled shells, fuzes, gun-cotton, etc., for Hongkong.

Mr. Olarovsky, the Russian Minister Resident at the Court of Siam, now on leave in Europe, is expected at Bangkok early in November.

Information from Vladivostok reports that the increased tariff on imports into the Siberian ports will be put in force from January next.

The Chinese Imperial Court, including the Emperor and Empress Dowager, are reported to have left Taiyuan-fu for Hsian-fu on the 1st inst.

The Japanese Military Manœuvres, which were to have taken place in Kiushiu this autumn, have been abandoned on account of the trouble in China.

M. Rollin-Jacquemyns, the General Adviser to the Siamese Government, will be leaving Genoa for Siam on the 8th inst. He is expected in Singapore early in November.

Yu Hsien, the infamous Governor of Shansi, formerly removed from Shantung after the murder of Mr. Brooks, has been ordered to resign Shansi and await a fresh appointment.

A special East Asiatic Department has been created at the German War Office to deal with the despatch of troops and other matters in connection with the present crisis in the Far East.

An Imperial Decree issued at the end of last month declared Hsian-fu to be the capital of the Chinese Empire, and Tuan Fang, Acting Governor of Shensi, was ordered to prepare the Imperial Palace.

On the 3rd inst. we received information to the effect that all the shipping companies of this port had withdrawn their vessels from the West River and sold them, owing to the restrictive regulations and the differential treatment accorded to British vessels.

The French gunboat *Avalanche* returned on Sunday to Canton from Shon Tak, after doing some useful work in conjunction with the Chinese authorities in suppressing disturbances. An inquiry into the rioting was held, four ringleaders beheaded, and a number of others arrested.

News arrived in Hongkong this week of the visit of H.M.S. *Robin* to Luklao, West River, a spot where the British-owned steamer *Lunghang* had been stoned by the villagers. The *Robin* fired a few shots into the bank. H.M.S. *Sandpiper* was stoned at Shikwan, West River, but, on the advice of H.M. Consul General at Canton no steps were taken to obtain redress.

Mr. Hayashi, Japanese Chargé d'Affaires in Seoul, is said to have informed the Korean Government that Japanese subjects will not withdraw from Ulsung so long as foreigners are allowed to reside in other parts of the Korean empire. It will be remembered that this withdrawal from Ulsung was required in consequence of the Korean Authorities having granted a lease of the island to Russians for timber-cutting purposes.

The arrivals of British transports at Hongkong on their way north during the past week were *Uganda*, *Laudara* (29th ult.), *Loodiana* (1st inst.), *Uralia* (4th). The departures for the north were:—*Uganda* (1st inst.), *Itaura* (2nd), *Umta* (3rd), *Loodiana*, *Nuddea*, *Warora* and *Wardka* (4th). H.M.S. *Mohawk* arrived from Swatow on the 29th ult., the *Otter* and *Handy* from Macao on the 1st inst. H.M.S. *Redpole* left on the 2nd for Shanghai.

A curious imperial decree was issued on the 30th ultimo, wherein the Emperor apparently apologises for the absence of a proper escort to Hsian-fu. He "deeply regrets the necessity he is under to proceed first to Hsian-fu, the permanent capital of the Empire, owing to the absence of lodger for thousands of baggage animals and ten thousands of horsemen." The South-eastern Viceroys and Governors are required to find money and rice, and the troops of the escort are strictly enjoined not to injure peaceful people.

News was received from Sandakan on the 2nd inst. that the Court of Directors of the British North Borneo Company had accepted H.E. Governor Hugh Clifford's resignation of his post. On the 4th inst. a belated telegram was received, dated Sandakan, the 29th ult., announcing that the Sandakan public had despatched a strong protest by cable to the Colonial Secretary, asking also for an Imperial Commissioner to be sent out to Borneo. Governor Clifford's resignation, it was urged, would be disastrous to the country.

To be ready in case the emergency should arise, Lord Curzon, the Viceroy of India, has for some time past been quietly strengthening the forces stationed along the Burma-Chinese frontier, so that there would be no difficulty in moving a substantial column across the frontier. The Governor-General of French Indo-China, it seems, fears that when once the Burma railway system reaches the Chinese frontier at Kunlon Ferry, the trade of Yunnan will follow this shorter route to Europe, instead of moving via Tonkin, and he has accordingly been endeavouring to establish a commercial monopoly in favour of his own country.

The *Foochow Daily Echo* of the 29th ult. has the following two items:—With the proved power of the Provincial authorities to preserve law and order it is almost unnecessary to say that the normal state of tranquility has been maintained. Still it is as well at the end of another month to place the fact on record. The people of the province are naturally peaceable enough, but in times like the present there are always a lot of ill-conditioned loafers about and agents of secret societies at work and it is only the vigilance of the authorities that has prevented them making headway.—The Missionary schools in the city and suburbs have been opened, and we learn that there is but little falling off in the number of pupils attending in any of them. But the Consuls have not thought it advisable for those Missionaries whose work is away from Foochow to return to their stations just at present and therefore they will remain here or at their sanitoriums for the time being.

THE CRISIS AND THE ELECTION.

(Daily Press, 1st October.)

What with the dissolution of Parliament and the opening of a direct cable line from Tientsin to Gutzlaff, we in China are left to outside indications for our knowledge of the progress of affairs in the North. From those indications we seem to be justified in the conclusion that the difference of opinion between the Powers has now amounted to an open divergence. On the one side stand Germany, England, and apparently Japan—we say, apparently, because Japan has been seeking to pursue a course of her own in minor matters—and on the other, more or less united, Russia, France, and the United States. The other Powers according to their private sympathies are prepared to follow the lead of one or other of these divisions. Of course we should be wrong were we to affirm that the United States were consciously following the lead given by Russia, and the Government at Washington would be the first to repudiate such a suggestion; but the fact remains that, explain the cause however it may, Russia is certainly taking advantage of the position in America to advance her own altogether selfish aims. The United States have an enormous constituency, and all the defects of a large constituency are enormously developed. Every voter in the Union is supposed to have a definite knowledge on every subject of interest to the country, and on no subject is the ordinary citizen more thoroughly convinced of his ability to form an opinion than on this of the relations of the Union with all foreign nations. The class of men who have practical experience in the very complicated foreign relations of the country are unfortunately very limited, more so than in most European nations, because the States have not yet seen the necessity of training a diplomatic service; and the consequence is that every fourth year, pending the Presidential election, the foreign relations of the nation are left for a term to the blind instigations of the mere politician. However well the President and his Secretary of State may comprehend the position, in the ordinary course they are for some four months in the hands of the wire-pullers, and have to obey their more or less despotic orders. A comparatively small section of the people really controls the issue of the election, and it is to catch the waverers, rather than the men of sound judgment, that every effort has to be made. America, equally with England, suffers under the tyranny of party cries, and the cry most frequently heard is that of the "anti-imperialists," that is of men who honestly fear that the extension of the foreign possessions of the States may result in such an alteration of the institutions of the nation as to seriously jeopardise its stability. This cry is sure to be heard at the hustings, and the attempt is being widely made to associate a forward policy in China with the results of the Spanish war in the Philippines. At another time this feeling would lead to make America join hands with England and Germany in opposing the policy of partition, but in the present instance, through want of reasoning power amongst the masses, it actually is tending to strengthen the opposite party. While this is undoubtedly the actuating motive in America, a very similar position in England induces the British Government to delay exposing its policy. As in the States a General Election takes place within a few weeks through the United Kingdom, and the Government is concerned to meet the country under the most favourable terms. The appeal is confessedly on the policy of

the Government in South Africa, and not unnaturally it is trying to simplify this appeal, and reduce it as much as possible to the one issue. While there is a general consensus with regard to the policy to be carried out in the recent republics, men's minds are not so uniform as to the measures to be adopted in China; and Lord SALISBURY'S Cabinet seek rather a general approval of their attitude than any definite expression of opinion. The broad outline that its policy is to be opposed to annexation and separate spheres has been sketched out, but of the measures proposed and the method intended of putting them in action no word has been permitted to escape. Unfortunately Lord SALISBURY is felt to be weak, his whole policy with regard to China has been a mistaken one, and his entire efforts have been devoted to getting a complacent House to give him a free hand. As far as can be judged from present appearances the Governmental majority in the House is not unlikely to be even further increased, and under certain circumstances this is a point for congratulation. The Opposition is hopelessly divided, but fortunately the strongest party amongst the many into which it is divided are favourers of a strong Imperial policy. Judging from previous experience the effect on the House will be to make a new division of parties, and will not improbably lead to a rapprochement between the more confirmed Imperialists of the Governmental party and the similar section of the Opposition. Such, as long as Government is carried on by party, must always be the fate of a party which has attained any great predominance, and such will doubtless be the case in the new Parliament. It is dangerous to prophesy in such a case, but the indications point to some such modification, and the enforced retirement of the less active members of the present Cabinet and their replacement by one or more of their opponents, who have been gradually working to the front. The divisions of party have ceased to be along the lines brought into being by the original Reform Party and accentuated by a GLADSTONE. Matters which would have divided the old parties to their lowermost depths have been decided in the last Parliament without arousing a party feeling; and the most radical of measures have been brought forward by, and warmly supported by, the most confirmed Tories. Such are the circumstances under which the fifteenth Parliament of Queen VICTORIA is being summoned, and we can only hope that it will lead the way to a better judgment of the importance of the issues pending in the Far East.

THE POWERS AND CHINA.

(Daily Press, 3rd October.)

The foreign Powers seem to be very needlessly exercised over the flight of the insurgent court to Shensi, and talk of the necessity of columns of troops to scour the country. Really, it has always seemed to us that this scare of the ability of the insurgent party is very much the creature of the imaginations of the Powers concerned. The Dowager Empress and her crew are just as strong, and no stronger, as we are content to make them. Lately this woman, who is not wanting in the spirit of bravado, has been essaying to make appointments through the Empire, and has had the effrontery even to include Shanghai, to which place she proposes to send a taotai devoted to her own interests. The idea seems to have taken away the breath of our officials, and we hear in the old style of protests being offered. Protests to whom? Apparently

to a woman who for her crimes is a fugitive, and whose supposed authority has no stronger foundation than the acquiescence of the external Powers. The Dowager, who, however lacking in personal courage, certainly does not lack audacity, has with no uncertain language expressed her intention of ridding herself of the persons of the two Yangtze Viceroys, and towards this end she has been quietly aiming at surrounding them with creatures devoted to her personal interests. Uncertain how to act in the presence of the vacillating conduct of the foreign Powers, especially of England, who they suspect would not scruple to throw them overboard at the last moment, they have hesitated in refusing to receive these emissaries of disorder. Growing bolder from her former immunity, the Empress Dowager has not scrupled to attempt to place her minions even in the headquarters of foreign influence, with the evident intention of check-mating the Powers themselves; and the feeble remonstrances with which this latest move has been met are an indication, of how little, even at this eleventh hour, the situation is comprehended. The natural course in such an event would be to inform the viceroys that no interference with the internal administration of the provinces by the self-constituted government will be permitted, and that they will be backed up in any refusal on their part to admit any nominees of the insurgent government, till the Emperor himself is restored as the actual, and not the merely nominal head, of the State. Such a course would only be the logical outcome of the crimes committed in the Emperor's name and would go a long way to convince the viceroys that the Powers are really in earnest; and that the system of terrorism which has been rampant for the last two years will be no longer permitted to stand in the way of the restoration of order. We have taken the trouble of expelling from Peking the recalcitrant party; we have occupied the greater part of the metropolitan province, we have superseded the imperial powers in Shanghai, and practically in the interests of all undertaken to police the basin of the Yangtze; and yet with all the means in our hands of bringing about a settlement, we actually permit the Empress and her crew a free hand in upsetting all our arrangements. If we had an armed nation to oppose us such as we encountered in the Orange territories in Africa, the course we suggest would of course not be practicable; but circumstances alter cases, and in China all the elements of order are on our side in upsetting a clique, which, except that it happens to possess the body of the Emperor, is, save for its crimes, a farce. In refusing to accept the Dowager's nominees we are in no respect contravening the independence of China; as neither by Chinese nor international law can the body of conspirators who hold the Emperor's person in bondage be looked upon as the legitimate rulers of the state. So long as we, in the face of these facts, continue to give countenance to the pretended edicts proceeding from the fugitives from justice, so long must we expect to be met by similar travesties; and so long as we show ourselves alarmed by these preposterous missives, so long will the viceroys have justification for respecting them. This is really the position. An outrageous woman, in open rebellion against the head of the state, but presuming on the unfortunate fact that she happens to hold the Emperor's person, issues in his name proclamations pretending to be Imperial Edicts; in the ordinary course of events these proclamations would be disregarded; but we in our feebleness, though the woman is a fugitive

from our arms, are content to look upon these silly fulminations as serious; and being masters of the situation, by so doing impress the Provinces with the idea that we desire that they should respect them also. We profess not to be at war with China; and yet we accept as China the very faction we have just driven from the seat of Government, and fail to see the incongruity of our actions with our professions. If we accept the vapourings of the Dowager and her crew as the genuine outcomings of the government of China, then *ipso facto* we acknowledge that we are carrying on war with China. If, however, we take the more natural and straightforward course of refusing to acknowledge the woman and her followers as other than insurgents at war with their Emperor, as well as with civilisation in general, then the only policy is at once to declare openly our position as regards the situation, and take care that the provinces shall be warned to give no more support to the irregular faction now pretending to usurp the functions of Imperial government; and further that no person professing to act on their authority or as their emissary shall be permitted to assume any rank or title thereby conferred; or to act in any way as if possessed of Imperial authority. The provinces are waiting for this declaration, which if given would justify them in their refusal to acknowledge these irregular proceedings; but unfortunately the whole course of our actions with regard to China has been marked by so much vacillation and senility, that we need not wonder that the provincial governments require some more binding assurance than we have as yet given, that they shall not in the end be handed over to the vengeance of the Dowager and her bloodthirsty satellites.

THE END OF THE INLAND WATERS FARCE.

(Daily Press, 4th October.)

Referring to the attack made by the Chinese on the British steamer *Lungkiang*, we now learn that H.M. gunboat *Robin*, with the Consul from Samshui on board, went to Luklao (the place where the outrage occurred), where she too was stoned by the people of the place, whereupon she fired some shots into the bank. Later, a petty official was got hold of, who regretted his inability to restrain the people, but promised to bamboo someone! With regard to the *Lungkiang* herself we understand the Customs at Canton threatened to fine her for passing Luklao at all and her captain was instructed, under orders from H.M. Consul-General in Canton, that he had better not go there again. A British merchant vessel is fired at; a British gunboat is pelted with stones, and what happens? The merchant vessel is threatened with a fine by the Chinese Government and the captain is warned by the British Authorities that—like Sam Weller in the Bardell case—he had better be careful; while the gunboat fires at a mud bank and gets a coolie bamboozed. A truly logical, dignified, and strong attitude!

It is, of course, necessary that H.M. Consuls should do their best to preserve order and peace in the southern provinces if possible, but it is doubtful if an exhibition which is characterised by neither dignity nor force can be calculated to increase the chances of this. Firing into a mud bank as a method of impressing the Chinese is doubtless effective, but whether the impression made tends to increase that respect for England's power with which it is so necessary the Chinese should be inspired, and upon which depends the lives of hundreds of foreigners in China, is a matter on which

the ordinary man can have no doubt whatever. With regard to the threat of the Customs officials to fine the *Lungkiang*, this can be taken for what it is worth. It can only be regarded as an attempt at "bluff," undertaken on behalf of the local officials in order, if possible, to complicate and evade the very plain question of their responsibility for an unprovoked outrage on a British vessel. The Customs are perfectly well aware that in passing Luklao—which is in one of the delta channels joining Canton with the West River—the *Lungkiang* was only doing what she and all other vessels have been doing with their (the Customs') full knowledge and consent for the past three years; although to do so may be contrary to the letter of certain regulations which were drawn up under conditions now no longer existing. But whether the vessel's presence at that particular spot was or was not in accordance with some restrictive and absurd regulation, it cannot be allowed to cover or in any way hide the point at issue. A *tantou* attack is made on a vessel under the British flag, and it is plainly the duty of the British Government to take some more effective steps to obtain redress than can be obtained by firing at a mud bank; and it is equally plainly the duty of the Chinese Government to offer some other reparation for the outrage than is contained in a threat of the infliction of a fine—on the outraged vessel. Piracy, murder and outrage have, however, become so common that a little more or less does not seem to affect our Government, but there is a power arising slowly but surely which will sooner or later make itself felt—the power of public opinion and public indignation. The public indignation of the world, it may be; but that of Britain certainly. The cup is nearly full, and it will be well for the Chinese that the last few drops are not added to make it overflow.

Closely connected with and forming part of the same restrictive regulations which the Chinese now advance in an attempt to palliate their attack on the *Lungkiang*, is the reason for the withdrawal and sale of the Shipping Companies' vessels from the West River trade. After two years of representation and petitioning against these restrictive regulations, which only resulted in polite acknowledgments from the British Government and in active resistance on the part of the Chinese, they have been compelled to withdraw their vessels, with the result that the British Flag is now practically unrepresented on the West River, as far as trade is concerned. Abstract reasonings on the right of the Chinese to make what regulations they see fit are interesting when one's pocket is not affected, but we cannot help wondering whether, if our representatives—from the Minister downwards to the Consuls at the various ports—had been financially affected by the result, they would not have introduced a little more practical energy into the performance of their duties and made some more efforts to secure the recognition of equality of opportunity for British ships than will ever be accomplished by discussions as to the exact meaning to be attached to some abstruse Chinese hieroglyphic.

(Daily Press, 5th October.)

In another column appears a notice of the report of Mr. B. C. G. Scott, H.M. Consul General at Canton, on the trade of that place during last year. Mr. Scott, it will be seen, says:—"Statements have appeared from sources that should be responsible and well informed that the West River and Inland Water Navigation Regulations

"are of such a nature as to prevent the expansion of trade, while the prevalence of piracy, as it is somewhat exaggeratedly called, had practically put a stop to trade altogether. No doubt these statements have been made to some extent under the idea that exaggeration is necessary where change or reform is desired, but in this case it would seem that they have over-shot their mark, so wide are the real facts from those predicated." It would be interesting to know Mr. Scott's opinion on the complete withdrawal of the British shipping companies' steamers from the West River, which we announced on Wednesday. Where now is the "exaggeration," and what are the "facts"? We do not remember seeing the statement that piracy "had practically put a stop to trade altogether," but with regard to the working of the Inland Water Regulations the case of the complainants is established in such a way that even Consular Reports cannot shake it.

THE CHINESE IMPERIAL POLICY.

(Daily Press, 2nd October.)

The telegram which reached us from Shanghai on Sunday night and appeared in our issue of yesterday brought news indicative of a complete change of attitude on the part of the Chinese Government and gives occasion for no little wonder what is the reason for the sudden volte-face. It was only on the 26th ult. that we read of a defiant secret edict from Prince TUAN, published in the Emperor's name, declaring China determined to continue the war at all costs against the foreign Powers; and of a public decree awarding posthumous honours to that most infamous of the ruffians prominent in the recent outbreak, LI PING-HENG. And now October has scarcely opened when we hear of tributes to the memories of the German Minister and Japanese Chancellor, the first foreign diplomatic victims of the reactionary madness; of the degradation of Princes and Ministers connected with the Boxer movement, and in particular of the arch-villain Prince TUAN himself, who must give up his offices and submit to the verdict of his peers. Nothing could be in greater contrast than the attitude of defiance last week and the yielding disposition manifested in the new announcement. Internal alterations must have occurred of a sweeping character, but how they were brought about we are not yet in a position to say. It might be suggested that the reactionary party are trying to buy their lives at the cost of their offices and honours, and to appease the avengers by the spontaneous offering of respect to the murdered diplomats. This attempt, it is needless to say, must on no account be allowed to succeed. It has already been proved time after time that the degradation of Chinese officials is a mere farce. It has, moreover, been declared in no hesitating manner by public opinion in Europe that for Prince TUAN and those with him who are beyond a doubt personally responsible for the murders of foreigners nothing short of the death penalty will suffice. There is also the question of the Empress Dowager left untouched—though this perhaps could hardly be dealt with in an Imperial Decree at the present moment. If the latest crop of decrees really indicates the revival of the influence of the long suppressed Emperor's party, it will be followed by a second yield of far finer promise. But it unfortunately appears too good to be true that the Emperor should be able to get free from his captors and their plottings under cover of his name and seal. It is, at any rate, undoubtedly a fact that

whether the edicts are issued in a genuine spirit of repentance or not, the best answer to them is not diplomatic hesitation, but firm and rapid action, which will strengthen the reviving Reform party, if indeed it is reviving, or will show the futility of "bluff," if that is what is intended.

MARKET ACCOMMODATION IN HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 5th October.)

All unbiased readers, we feel sure, will heartily approve of Mr. OSBORNE's motion, unanimously supported at the last Sanitary Board meeting, that the Government be asked to provide a suitable market in Tsimshatsui for the especial convenience of Europeans resident on the Peninsula. That such a necessary building is not already in existence is a matter for legitimate surprise and complaint. It is an established and incontrovertible fact that markets, on whatever part of the island or mainland, have always been a safe and sound investment; while latterly they have yielded almost phenomenal returns. The city of Victoria itself, in this considerable matter of market accommodation, is far from being satisfactory. The exorbitant rents exacted for dwellings fitted for Chinese of the respectable working and coolie classes, in the streets immediately off Queen's Road, have driven whole clans of these people higher up the hill. Tenements that formerly were almost exclusively inhabited by the poorer sections of the European community are now wholly monopolised by the native labouring classes. Carpenters, tinsmiths, bootmakers, washermen, and so forth, who of old were almost entirely located in and about the thoroughfares on the Praya level, have, in quite a number of instances, migrated up the hill, where landlords are less unreasonable in their demands. This somewhat sudden shifting of great masses of the population has brought in its train many attendant disadvantages. The markets, which once were in the middle of their customers, are not now so central, so readily got at. Apparently, the Government has made no arrangement to meet this altered state of things. Time, labour, and money are each and all as valuable to the humble native toilers in Hongkong as to Europeans in Tsimshatsui; and the arguments so vigorously and eloquently marshalled by Mr. OSBORNE, on behalf of the Tsimshatsui people, have equal weight and cogency when applied to Chinese needs in Hongkong. The people who on grounds of economy have been driven to live higher up the hill find their supplies of food much less accessible than when living in the neighbourhood of Queen's Road. In most cases, their precarious mode of livelihood forces them to get their slender stores of fish, flesh, and vegetables fresh for each frugal meal; and the time consumed in going to and fro to make these purchases several times each day is far from inconsiderable. To surmount this formidable difficulty, a number of pork-vendors and fresh fish hawkers carry their wares up the hill. In spite of the extra trouble this entails, apart from the serious risks incurred—for the hawking of live fish and unsalted pork is strictly illegal—their prices are practically the same as those charged at the stalls in the markets below. This should naturally arouse suspicion as to the quality of the commodities they expose for sale. To what a large extent this *po-kai-shang-i*, this shoulder-borne traffic, is prosecuted, and the law thereby set at naught, is evident to any one who cares to saunter through the quarters we are alluding to, either about 8.30 in the morning or

between the hours of 3 and 5 any afternoon, when the Chinese are preparing one or other of their two chief meals. There cannot be the slightest doubt that a lot of meat and fish, otherwise unsalable in the Queen's Road markets, is thus got rid of by these enterprising individuals. These men generally gather at a crossing, whence they have an uninterrupted view up and down several ways of approach. On the occasional leisurely arrival of the European constable of the district, they disappear, as if by magic, down some of the neighbouring alleys and lanes, to re-appear when he is out of sight. They are fully acquainted with the deliberate regular movements of the sleepy *lukong* and dreamy Indian policeman of the beat. Moreover, they are aided in their constant outlook for these "preservers of the peace," by mobs of sharp-eyed quick-witted *ngau-wong-tsai* who infest such localities, and who are as alert as any London street-arab or Paris *gamin*. A big part of this clandestine trade in fresh animal food would be at once and inevitably scotched if a market were erected anywhere on the levelled and vacant land to the east of the Tung-wa Hospital. This ought to be done straight away. The need is most urgent. While a permanent building was being put up, a temporary matched or wooden structure could be run up hard by, as any number of valuable sites are lying idle. The venture would be a paying concern from the outset. Fresh food can at least be inspected, and its sale regulated, in a public market, whereas, furtively sold at street-corners, it is beyond all efficient sanitary control. Neither buyers nor sellers can be wholly blamed for existing irregularities: it is a convenience to the former to have articles of every-day consumption brought to their doorstep; it is a sore temptation to the latter to sell inferior food-stuffs that for sundry reasons they might find left on their hands in open market. The Government, or rather that Department of it whose duty it is to attend to the righting of such matters, deserves the gravest censure for allowing this discreditable and dangerous state of affairs to continue unnoticed and unremedied.

MALARIA AND LOCAL SANITATION.

(Daily Press, 29th September.)

During the Congress of the Royal Institute of Public Health, held this year at Aberdeen, Dr. PATRICK MANSON, whom all old residents here remember, gave a lecture entitled "Malaria a Sanitary Problem," which was the feature of the Congress. The lecturer pointed out that malaria, in spite of somewhat recent sporadic outbreaks, as an indigenous disease had ceased to exist in Great Britain. He further said that the problem of the prevention of malaria in our tropical colonies and possessions was one of the gravest that the Colonial Office of late years had been called on to grapple with. Although locally our reputation in the matter of malaria stands higher than that of those parts of the Dark Continent known as "the white man's grave," the prevalence and virulence of the disease here is sufficiently alarming to justify every effort being made to lessen its relentless ravages. As Dr. MANSON has said, the matter is one of sanitation: and this outstanding fact cannot be too frequently reiterated, nor too prominently kept in mind. As noted by Dr. CLARK in the Reports last week before the Sanitary Board, all kind of dense undergrowth should be scrupulously kept down, particularly if near human habitations; it affords warmth and shelter to mosquitoes

during the cold dry weather which would otherwise kill them off. A beginning in this direction might be made on the various roads leading from the lower levels to the Peak; they are all, in very many places, far too thickly overgrown. Ubiquitous grass-cutters will, without being asked to do so, clear off all grass; it affords them a more or less succulent food for cattle in the wet season, and cheap firing or stable-bedding in the winter months. The many coarse weeds, however, that spring up so rapidly by the roadside, especially on rubbish dumped down and left from building operations, are of no use as fodder, littering, or fuel, and grow and spread unchecked, unless rooted up. As this latter function appears to belong to no one in particular, they grow in tangled confusion, a menace to the public health. Paths leading to houses and turfed banks should all be regularly attended to. Servants should not be permitted to throw away broken crockery, empty butter-tins and jam-cans into any odd corner out of sight. This may seem a trifle, but a heavy shower falls, the cast-away articles are filled with rain-water, and being wholly undisturbed become prolific centres of mosquito life. The aspect of the sides of the Peak Road, from the Tram Station at Plantation Road, down to the first European houses just above Queen's Gardens, is not what it once was, and certainly not what it should be. Before the tram-line was laid, this road was the main, indeed the only, thoroughfare for those resident at the Peak. At the present moment it is practically used solely by natives. The Conservancy coolies are huge sinners in respect of the amount of matter dropped, accidentally or otherwise, over the wayside as they stagger down with their burdens. No doubt the Sanitary Board will, in time, be able more thoroughly to control the men guilty of this. The rooting up of undergrowth by roadsides and in nullahs, the better regulation of the Conservancy coolies, and such kindred matters, will have to be seriously taken in hand, if any organised movement is to be initiated to oust the mosquito, and with it malaria, from amongst us. The expenditure of a few hundreds, or even thousands of dollars, on this highly important duty of utterly destroying the mosquito's habitat must be regarded with equanimity. We must think of the many thousands of pounds sterling lavished in Australia in attempts to check the multiplication of the rabbit and of the enormous outlay incurred in the United States to get rid of the common sparrow: though these were not the direct danger to human life that the different species of *culicidae* are. Now that so much trained attention is being bestowed on this particular by-path of entomology, we shall no doubt learn, eventually, that other diseases indigenous to the tropics are directly due to inoculation by the mosquito. Malaria and elephantiasis are already a heavy score against this pest, and alone warrant the most strenuous efforts being put forth to exterminate it. Ailments hitherto attributed to the miasmata exhaled from rank tropical vegetation, to climatic conditions, or to the disturbance of soil composed of disintegrating granite, must now be ascribed to the subcutaneous transmission effected by the mosquito. The proboscis of the mosquito, as revealed to us beneath the magnifying eye of the microscope, is indeed a marvellously constructed organ. It is a perfectly equipped case of the most delicate surgical instruments. Here are its contents named in order of use: the keenest of lancets; a pair of fine-toothed saws, set back to back; a powerful suction-tube, through which the blood of its victim is drawn; and

lastly, an injection pipe, through which is spirted the subtle poison that causes the irritation and subsequent swelling, and which by the light of corroborated investigation we know, holds the parasite that generates malaria, elephantiasis, or some other of the many disagreeable ills to which frail flesh is heir in the tropics. Accurately described, the wound inflicted by the mosquito is not a bite at all; for the flesh is not pinched, nipped, held, or seized in any manner either by teeth or by anything equivalent to teeth. It is rather a comparatively deep incision. The intolerable smarting sensation may be partly the result of contact of the exposed edges of the wound with the air, directly the gluttonous insect withdraws its proboscis; but it is more probably very largely due to the after-effects of the injection. The liquid food of the mosquito, it should be noticed, is venous, not arterial blood. This is a most important factor in the mosquito's life-history, and deserves the closest attention. Generally stated, the arteries are too deeply seated to be reached by the minute instruments at the insect's disposal; or, rather, suitable veins are more readily accessible. The creature's food is also the medium whereby it infects as with disease. Venous blood, dark-coloured, devitalized, detritus-laden, flows sluggishly and evenly through the veins, and is less able to ward off the insidious attacks made on it by the imported parasite of disease than the bright-bued, re-quickened, haematin-charged blood that pulses along the arteries. The mosquito, in fact, instinctively selects the feeblest of the two forms of blood as a medium of transmission. The after-swelling causes the lips of the puncture to close up tightly; and thus, hermetically sealed from the influences of light and air, enemies of all forms of disease, the implanted parasite is enabled to accomplish its mission the more thoroughly. This little scientific digression, we hope, is not wholly out of place. In view of the undisputed magnitude of the issues involved, we think it behoves the wardens of the public health of the Colony to bestir themselves, and to see that every thing possible is done to render our island an undesirable abode to all species of *culex*.

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

SHANGHAI, 28th September, 9.25 p.m.

An Imperial Decree, dated the 13th, formally announces that Hsianfu is to be the future capital of China, and orders Tuan Fang, the Acting Governor of Shensi, to prepare the palace.

Economy is enjoined on account of hard times.

Huang, the Admiral of the Yangtze, has been appointed Vice-Generalissimo of the Peiyang forces, under Yung-Lu, this enabling Lui Kung-yi to appoint most trusted officials as Acting Admiral of the Yangtze and Provincial Chief Commander of Kiangnan.

MACAO, 30th September, 5 p.m.

The river gunboat *Robin* proceeded to Luklan, near Kumchuk, West River, and bombarded the village in retaliation of the natives firing upon the British steamer *Lingkiang*, the gentry being also compelled to flog the guilty parties. Notices have been posted stating the reason for the punishment.

When the *Sandpiper*, which has arrived here, passed Shikwan, West River, the natives stoned her. It is reported that on the matter being reported to the British Consul at

Canton he advised the Commander not to use force in retaliation.

SHANGHAI, 30th September, 8.55 p.m.

Ernest Satow arrived here yesterday.

Imperial decrees have been issued ordering the performance of funeral honours in respect of the late Baron Ketteler at Peking and Berlin; lamenting the sad occurrence; depriving several Princes and Ministers who encouraged the Boxers of their titles, ranks, and offices; depriving Prince Tuan of his offices and ordering his trial before the Imperial clan court; and ordering other Ministers before other courts for severe punishment.

Practically all the Grand Council have gone except Wang Wen Shao.

Another decree orders funeral honours in respect of Sagiyama, the Japanese Chancellor who was murdered at Peking.

There is a terrible famine in Shensi, and this probably prevents the court from going to Hsianfu.

SHANGHAI, 2nd October, 9 p.m.

It is reported that the Empress-Dowager and the Court left Taiyuan-fu for Hsianfu yesterday (Monday).

The two Tartar generals in Manchuria who were recently defeated by the Russians have been deprived of all rank until their characters shall have been retrieved.

Yu Hsien, Governor of Shansi, has been ordered to resign and await a fresh position. Lu Chuan-lin is retained at Peking as Grand Councillor.

Tao Mu, Viceroy of the Shen-kan, has been transferred to Canton.

A large allied force, military and naval, has gone to Shanhaikwan.

WITHDRAWAL OF BRITISH SHIPS FROM THE WEST RIVER.

Owing to the restrictive regulations and differential treatment accorded to British vessels on the West River, the shipping companies of Hongkong have withdrawn and sold all their vessels.

This leaves the British Flag practically unrepresented in those waters, and, it is needless to say, renders the position of foreigners on the West River precarious in event of a rising.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

On Monday afternoon, the 1st inst., a meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present:—

His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR (Sir HENRY BLAKE, G.C.M.G.).

His EXCELLENCY Major-General GASCOIGNE, C.M.G. (Commanding the troops).

The Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

The Hon. W. MEIGH GOODMAN, Q.C. (Attorney-General).

The Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

The Hon. R. D. ORMSBY (Director of Public Works).

The Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police).

Hon. BASIL TAYLOR (Acting Harbour Master).

Hon. A. W. BREWIN.

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI.

Hon. J. THURBURN.

Hon. R. M. GRAY.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

THE HON. F. H. MAY TAKES THE OATH.

The Hon. F. H. MAY, who, during the absence of the Hon. G. H. Stewart Lockhart, was Acting Colonial Secretary, was sworn in on his re-appointment as a member of the Council.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL Secretary laid on the table Financial minutes Nos. 46 to 53, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 15) and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.

The DIRECTOR of PUBLIC WORKS laid on the table report of the Public Works Committee (Nos. 4 and 5).

THE ESTIMATES—THE PROSPEROUS CONDITION OF THE COLONY.

His EXCELLENCY the Governor said: In laying the estimates on the table, I have to congratulate you on the prosperous condition of the Colony as disclosed in the figures to be laid before you. The period embraced within the past twelve months has been one fraught with momentous issues to the British Empire. The carefully planned attempt to subvert British Supremacy in South Africa has happily been frustrated, and I congratulate this Colony upon the generous contribution of over \$153,000 in response to a call for funds for the families of the sailors and soldiers engaged in the serious South African War, now rapidly drawing to a successful conclusion. Nor can we close our eyes to the gravity of the present position in the North of China, where a fanatical ante-foreign movement, originating with the Boxer Society, was ultimately joined by the Imperial troops. The Foreign Settlements of Tientsin were attacked, large numbers of foreign missionaries and native Christians have been murdered under circumstances of horrible barbarity, and for eight weeks the Legations of all the Foreign Powers in Peking were closely besieged by Chinese soldiers, aided by Boxers. The capture of the Taku Forts, the Chinese city of Tientsin, and of Peking was not effected without loss of life and destruction of property and now the Allied Forces are in full possession of the capital, while it has yet to be decided what retribution shall be exacted from the Chinese Empire for these sanguinary murders and the gross violation of the universal inviolability of diplomatic Missions. The present effect of this position upon Hongkong is to increase its income. Large numbers of transports have passed through the Port bearing troops of all nations, and money has been spent. Considerable sums have been sent down from China to be invested under theegis of British security in the Colony, and the godowns are taxed to their utmost capacity for the storage of merchandise. But it must be remembered that this apparent plethora of business is caused to a great extent by the unreadiness of Chinese buyers to take delivery in consequence of the uncertainty of the trade conditions in the interior, and we must look forward to possible diminution in the volume of trade during the ensuing year. I regret to say that during the present year we have again been visited by a serious epidemic of plague, the number of cases up to the present being 1065, and number of deaths 1007, or 94.5 per cent. I have directed that returns similar to those of last year shall be prepared, in the hope that ultimately the comparison of returns may afford some clue to the conditions especially favourable to this scourge. I can vouch for the activity of the Sanitary Board, but so far nothing that has been done appears to affect the high death rate of those stricken with the disease. The systematic killing of rats has been actively carried out, and this year up to the present 40,500 have been destroyed. It is possible that this may account for the diminution of the number of cases as compared with last year. The condition of the New Territory is satisfactory, and the people now realize the benefits of effective protection of life and property. The collection of land revenue has been delayed owing to the necessity of having an accurate survey of the land occupied, and the determination of rights of occupancy, on which subject many conflicting claims have been entered. The survey is being rapidly carried out by a staff of surveyors, lent by the Indian Government, and the Land Court has been established, which will begin its operations in November. The main road projected for easy access to the

New Territory in all weathers has now been completed to deep water in Mirs Bay, north of Shatin, and will be pushed forward to Taipo Hui during the coming year. The estimated revenue for 1901 is \$3,909,349.00 and the estimated expenditure \$3,994,270.29 making a deficit of \$84,921.29. These figures do not include an estimated surplus in hand at the end of the current year of \$846,507.00. Having regard to the great uncertainty of the China trade in the immediate future it is desirable to have a substantial balance in hand, and in considering the Public Works-extraordinary submitted in the estimates it must be further born in mind that a large expenditure on Sanitary Works may become necessary. I therefore invite you to scrutinise carefully the Public Works extraordinary that will be submitted to you. In the meantime plans of all these works have been prepared and will accompany the estimates when submitted to the Secretary of State, so that no time shall be lost in carrying out the Works finally approved by him. I am happy to inform you that the plans of the Law Courts have been finally approved and the foundations are being proceeded with, and the long deferred Jubilee Road round Mount Davis will be undertaken by private contractors without delay. The extensive public and private works now in progress or projected, involving the expenditure of many millions of dollars, may however exhaust the available supply of labour and modify our estimate of the time in which proposed public works may be completed. The following Bills will be submitted to you:

A Bill entitled an Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding three millions three hundred and eighty thousand one hundred and thirty-four dollars and twenty-nine cents to the Public Service of the year 1901.

A Bill entitled an Ordinance to consolidate the Laws relating to the Post Office.

A Bill entitled an Ordinance to provide more effectual means to ensure the observance, by those in charge of steam launches, of reasonable precautions against piracy and robbery.

A Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the law with respect to the Jurisdiction exercisable in cases relating to the Receipt or Possession of Stolen Property.

A Bill entitled an Ordinance to extend the operation of such of the Laws of this Colony as are not at present in force in the New Territories to a certain portion of such Territories.

A Bill entitled an Ordinance to further amend the Raw Opium Ordinance, 1887.

A Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Widows and Orphans Pension Fund Ordinance 1900.

I commend them to your careful consideration and I earnestly hope that the shadow of disturbance that now broods over the Far East may pass away, after such a settlement as will insure to all men security for person and property, when peaceably pursuing their lawful avocations. (Applause.)

FIRST READINGS.

The following Bills were read a first time:—
A Bill entitled an Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding three million three hundred and eighty thousand, one hundred and thirty-four dollars and twenty-nine cents to the public service of the year 1901.

A Bill entitled an Ordinance to consolidate and amend the laws relating to the Post Office.

A Bill entitled an Ordinance to provide more effectual means to ensure the observance, by those in charge of certain steam launches, of reasonable precautions against piracy and robbery.

A Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the law with respect to the Jurisdiction exercisable in cases relating to the receipt or possession of stolen property.

A Bill entitled an Ordinance to extend the operation of such of the laws of this Colony as are not at present in the New Territories to a certain portion of such New Territories.

A Bill entitled an Ordinance to further amend the Raw Opium Ordinance, 1887.

A Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Widows and Orphans' Pension Fund Ordinance, 1900.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council adjourned until Monday week.

MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

THE KOWLOON WATER SUPPLY.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the Council meeting, the Colonial Secretary presiding.

The following votes were approved:—A sum of forty-seven thousand three hundred and eighty-eight dollars and fifty-eight cents (\$47,388.58), in aid of the following votes (Public Works Extraordinary):—

Sai Kung Police Station	\$ 6,500.00
Starling Inlet Police Station	5,471.98
City of Victoria and Hill District	
Water Works	15,000.00
Survey of New Territory	15,000.00
Rifle range, Tai Hang	416.60
Gaol Extension	5,000.00

Total ... \$47,388.58

A sum of eight thousand one hundred and thirteen dollars and ninety cents (\$8,113.90) to cover the cost of the re-construction of the Pier at Sham Shui Po.

A sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) in aid of the vote "Maintenance of Telegraphs."

A sum of seventy thousand nine hundred and eighty dollars (\$70,980) to cover the cost of construction and chartering of Steam-launches, &c. for the use of the New Territory.

A sum of three hundred dollars (\$300) in aid of the vote "Incidental Expenses in the Supreme Court."

A sum of eight thousand and nine hundred dollars (\$8,900) in aid of the following votes:—
Government Civil Hospital.

Provision	\$8,900.00
Medical Comforts	350.00
Fuel and Light	500.00
Washing	400.00
Incidental Expenses, Furniture &c.	250.00
New Territory.	

Medicines ... 500.00

Total ... \$8,900.00

This vote was agreed to on the understanding that the question of the fees paid by private patients should be considered.

The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of two hundred dollars (\$200) to defray the salary of a Clerk during the current year in connection with the census of 1901.

A sum of four thousand and five hundred dollars (\$4,500) in aid of the vote "Maintenance of Waterworks, Kowloon."

On the vote with regard to the Kowloon Waterworks being brought up.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER said that probably the Chairman had read the statements made at the Sanitary Board meeting with regard to the water supply at Kowloon. Complaints were numerous, and he was informed that not only had people to pay for water which they did not get but they had to pay for air. He was told that the meters registered air, and that they had registered air as water to such an extent that householders had had to pay for using more water than the quantity allowed when they had not used any water at all.

The CHAIRMAN said that the explanation of this vote was that the expenses in connection with the Kowloon water supply had been exceptionally heavy this year. The two pumps had been repaired at a cost of \$2,150.

The DIRECTOR of PUBLIC WORKS said he was glad to have the opportunity of replying to the statement as to the registering of air. It was simply impossible for a meter to register air unless the tap was left open. It had come to his knowledge that many people at Kowloon had been in the habit lately of leaving their taps open at night. There had been a great difficulty in keeping up the water supply in Kowloon. The principal reason was the enormous increase in population, and then the breaking down of the pumps had given them an immensity of trouble. Pumping had to go on throughout the 24 hours. It was most wasteful for people to leave their taps open all night, and he threatened to prosecute offenders in the future. If the meters of people who wasted water in this manner registered air all he could say was that it served them right. The only complaint, however, which he had had in regard to this matter was a case in which \$1.80 was paid by the occupants of a whole terrace because the

water represented as having been used by them was in excess of the quantity allowed.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—If an individual does not get any water the only thing he can possibly do is to keep his tap open so that he may catch some. Some tenants had absolutely no water.

The Hon. R. D. ORMSBY questioned this.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—That is what I am told, and to get water at all they have to keep the taps open, and when they do keep them open apparently air gets through the meters and is registered as water. If it is necessary to have an additional pump the Council would not hesitate to approve a vote. It has been the invariable of rule of the unofficial members of this Council never to object any vote for water. On the contrary, they had been the people who had been pushing on others, and apparently the Government had not gone on as rapidly as they the unofficial members would have liked to see them go.

The CHAIRMAN—It is equally the desire of the Government to have the water supply of Kowloon placed on a satisfactory footing, and honourable members will find on consulting the estimates that there are very large sums inserted there with a view to carrying on the works. Unfortunately works of that kind take time. I hope it will be possible to improve the water supply before the water-works are completed. That is a matter which is engaging the attention of the Director of Public Works.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER said that the trouble had been that the water staff had been too small. They had not had enough men to carry out the work in connection with the water supply. The unofficial members had pointed out more than once that the staff of the water works was far below what it should be.

The CHAIRMAN—If that is the case the unofficial members are quite right in calling attention to the matter. I shall take steps to ascertain whether the staff is undermanned, and if it is it is only right it should be increased.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT of POLICE pointed out that previous to the extension of the boundary of Kowloon there were no places where they could store water and the boundary was only extended a little more than a year ago. The old water works at Kowloon were only of limited capacity. People said, "Why have not reservoirs been made?" He would remind them that they could not go into the Empire of China to do this. As soon as the hills behind Kowloon became British territory steps were taken to provide for the construction of such reservoirs as would ensure an adequate supply of water. They could not get water out of stone.

The DIRECTOR of PUBLIC WORKS said that almost immediately after the British took possession of the New Territory he went out with another officer, and they found a stream which they could tap and bring into Kowloon. They laid a pipe and within a few months the water supply of Kowloon was increased by 50 per cent. He and Mr. Gibbs then examined a site for a reservoir, and a scheme was drawn up which was now under the consideration of the consulting engineer at home. The scheme, however, would take two or three years to carry out. There had been no delay on the part of the government, who had never refused him money to carry any works on.

Answering the Hon. C. P. Chater, the DIRECTOR of PUBLIC WORKS assured him that though the construction of the water works at Kowloon would occupy three years arrangements could be made in the meantime to increase the water-supply for Kowloon.

This was all the business.

The death is announced at Yokohama of Mr. Walter Ewen Townsend, at the early age of 21. The *Japan Mail* says that the deceased was a promising cadet of H.B.M.'s Consular service in China, and the son of the well-known New York manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. He went through the recent siege at Peking, during which he was twice wounded, and had gone to Japan to recuperate. Unfortunately he developed typhoid fever after landing at Yokohama, and having no reserve of strength, after his experiences in the Chinese capital, wherewith to combat the disease, he gradually sank, dying on the 23rd ult.

THE CRISIS IN CHINA.

LOCAL MOVEMENTS.

The *Landaura* arrived from Calcutta on Saturday, 14th September, with the Ulwar Imperial Service troops and No. 3 Native General Hospital, with baggage, horses, mules, and bullocks.

The *Uganda* arrived on the same day.

On the 1st inst. the transport *Loodiana* arrived from Calcutta, bringing Capt. Tribe, I. S. C., and Entrican, I. M. S., and 513 rank and file.

H. M. destroyers *Otter* and *Handy* left Macao soon after 8 a.m. on the 1st inst., and crossed over to Hongkong.

The Portuguese cruiser *Adamastor* also arrived on the 1st., having left Macao over night.

The transport *Uganda* left on the 1st. for Taku with a squadron of Jodpore Lancers and the *Muttra* for Calcutta.

H.M. gunboat *Redpole* left on the 2nd inst. for Shanghai.

The transport *Itaura* left for Taku.

The Austrian steamer *Maria Teresa*, chartered by the Russian Government, arrived on the 2nd inst. from Odessa with Russian troops and munitions of war on board for the north.

The Italian transport *Marco Minghelli* and *Singapore* arrived on the 1st inst. from Taku.

The British transport *Fazilka* arrived on the 3rd inst. from Weihaiwei.

The British transport *Umta* left on the 3rd inst. for Taku.

The British transport *Urtana* arrived on Thursday from Calcutta, which she left on the 17th ult., being obliged to spend four days in the river, owing to the stormy weather. She brought the following officers—Capt. Turner, Lieuts. Hitchins, Cox, Wright, Bridges, and Norman; six European N.C.O.'s; and 524 Native troops and followers, including parts of the Sanitary Establishment, 62nd Native Field Hospital, and the Remount Depot.

The *Mombassa* returned on the same day from Weihaiwei.

The four transports *Loodiana*, *Nuddea*, *Warora*, and *Wardha* left on Thursday for Taku.

The Japanese cruiser *Takachiho* arrived from Amoy on Thursday.

The *Palamcottla* arrived from Taku yesterday and the *Fazilka* left for Calcutta.

THE DISTURBANCES IN CANTON NEIGHBOURHOOD.

BRITISH FLAG FIRED ON.

We received from Canton confirmation of the story given by our correspondent on the 28th ult. that as the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.'s steamer *Lungking* was on her way up from Canton to Wuchow she was fired at from the town of Luklao or Lak Low, near Kumchuck, on the 24th Sept. One Chinese member of her crew was wounded and a European passenger (one of the I. M. Customs staff) was, we understand, also hurt.

The affair was reported to the French gunboat *Avalanche*.

THE ARMS ORDINANCE.

AN IMPORTANT POINT.

At the Magistracy on the 2nd inst. Mr. Hazeland gave his decision in the case of the arms dealer (Ho Sai Wing, Queen's Road), against whom three summonses had been issued for offences against the Arms Ordinance.

His Worship said—The Defendant was summoned pursuant to section 14 of the Arms and Ammunition Ordinance 1903, on three summonses, for that he being a licensed dealer in arms unlawfully did neglect to enter in his book of sales the name, occupation and address of the purchaser of the arms set out in the said three summonses.

The defendant pleaded that the mere fact of a dealer in arms having omitted to keep a record in his book of sales of the name, occupation, and address of a purchaser from him of arms and ammunition is no offence unless it is proved that such name, occupation and address was "at the time of the purchase given to the arms dealer by the purchaser."

The sales book of the Defendant was put in and the three items under which the Defendant was summoned are as follows:—

Date, 3rd day; purchaser's name, European; occupation, for protection; address Chung Wan; description of goods, 150 cartridges; price \$3.70.

Purchaser, European; description of goods, 100 cartridges; price \$1.

The third entry with which fault was found read as follows:—Bound for San U. Tai Ping pass boat; to be loaded with sundry goods; moored at West Point, 30 boxes big caps; received \$6.30.

There is an imperative duty on every importer of, dealer in or vendor of arms and ammunition under section 14 to enter certain particulars in his book of sales.

In the present case the book of sales which has been put in show that the section has not been complied with. The onus is therefore in my opinion shifted on the Defendant to show to the Court that it was impossible for him to comply with the terms of the said Section.

Section 6 of the Ordinance is as follows:—

"No arms or ammunition shall be sold to any person (not exempted by the provisions in section 5 from the necessity of taking out a license).

(a.) for use within the colony unless the purchaser presents at or before the time of purchase a valid license either to carry or to have in his possession such arms or ammunition, or

(b.) for export from the colony unless the vendor has obtained from the Captain Superintendent of Police an export permit which may be in the form given in the schedule hereto annexed marked and shall be made out in Chinese as well as in English: Provided, nevertheless, that no export permit shall be required in respect of any ammunition which is being exported from the colony direct from the Government Depot on Stonecutter's Island under a delivery order issued by the Harbour Master.

"Such export permit or such delivery order when granted shall be deemed equivalent to the license of the Captain Superintendent of Police to carry or possess arms or ammunition, but in the case of an export permit it shall only operate as such a license up to the time named in such permit for the return of such permit."

"An application for such permit shall be in the form given in the schedule hereto annexed marked A and shall be made out in Chinese as well as in English in cases where the applicant is a Chinaman, and shall be signed by the vendor of the said arms or ammunition and filed by him with the Captain Superintendent of Police. No fee shall be payable in respect of filing such application or granting such permit."

Under sub-section (a) the name at least of the person licensed "to carry or have in his possession arms or ammunition" would be within the knowledge of the Defendant and if the purchaser was an "exempted person" it would be the vendor's duty to satisfy himself that such purchaser was an exempted person.

With respect to sub-section (b) the vendor is required by form B in the schedule to the Ordinance to return the permit together with the master's or mate's receipt. Under this sub-section at any rate the vendor would know the name and address of the purchaser who would be the consignee of the said "arms and ammunition."

I therefore convict the defendant, and fine him the sum of fifty dollars on each of the three summonses—such fines to be consecutive.

A telegram to Japan from Masampo, Corea, states that a piece of land extending over 1,500 tsubo, which was leased to Russia, and another piece of the same area in possession of a Japanese at that Korean port, have been exchanged at the request of the Russian authorities. It appears, says the *Nagasaki Press*, that the long-talked-of Masampo affair has thus been brought to an amicable settlement among the parties concerned.

By order of the Japanese Government, the Osaka Shosen Kaisha is about to open two new steamship services to Corea, in addition to the Company's regular service between Kobe and Masampo. One of the new lines is from Kobe to Chemulpo via Moji, Fusan, and Mokpo, the other one being from Kobe to Chinnampo by way of Moji, Nagasaki, Fusan, and Chemulpo. These lines will be run twice every three weeks by the *Sumidajawa-maru*, *Chikugegawa-maru* and the *Shinanogawa-maru*.

DISASTROUS FIRE AT YAUMATI.

A BOAT-BUILDER'S YARD BURNED OUT.

One of the most disastrous fires experienced in the colony for some time took place in the Kowloon peninsula on the night of the 28th ult., when the village of Mongkokwai (between Yaumati and Taikokwai), which consisted almost entirely of boat-building sheds, with about a dozen family houses for the workpeople, was destroyed, together with a number of junks, launches, and fishing boats which were either being constructed or repaired.

Inspector Macdonald, of the Yaumati Police Station, noticed the outbreak at about ten o'clock in the evening. He was the only European in the Station at the time, but with the assistance of the Chinese on the premises the fire-engine was got out and taken with all speed to the scene of the outbreak. In the meantime flames and smoke had been seen issuing from a launch-building shed owned by Cheong Kit, by a Chinaman in the vicinity. This man immediately gave the alarm, so that by the time the Yaumati Fire Brigade arrived the workpeople were doing all they could to combat the flames, which, however, had spread with great rapidity. It was seen at once that to save the yard was almost a hopeless task, and from the first the efforts of the firemen were directed towards preventing the flames from spreading beyond a certain area. The military authorities had been informed early on, and two companies of the 22nd Bombay Infantry and two companies of the 3rd Madras Infantry were placed under arms and formed a fire picket. The Madras men held the Yaumati approach to the fire while the Bombays guarded the approach from the other side, remaining on duty until one o'clock on Saturday morning. The two Government fire floats and the Dock Company's float did what they could to assist in combatting the flames, together with the fire engine from Yaumati. Their efforts, however, seemed to make but little impression. Soon the whole yard was in a blaze. Looked at from the adjoining hills it seemed as if a small town were in flames, the area covered by the blazing material being a good half-mile. Mat-sheds, brick houses, launches, junks, and fishing boats burned fiercely, and gave many people on the Hongkong side of the water the impression that the Cosmopolitan Docks or the adjoining kerosene tanks had caught fire.

Hundreds of the Kowloon residents crowded towards the scene of the fire, whilst H. E. the Governor, along with Viscount Suidale, A.D.C., the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Colonel. The O'Gorman, Deputy-Superintendent Badeley, and others hurried over from the other side.

Until midnight the fire burned fiercely. It then began to die out, but it was near on to five o'clock in the morning before it was altogether extinguished. The damage will be considerable, and as it is not covered by insurance heavy losses will be experienced by the people concerned.

DISGRACEFUL CONDUCT OF BRITISH BLUE-JACKETS.

KNOCKING A CHINESE CONSTABLE ABOUT.

Though somewhat noisy at times the average British Blue-jacket is not often guilty of such conduct as that of which four seamen from H.M.S. *Argonaut* were found guilty at the Magistracy on the 4th inst., their names were John McElligott, Joseph Tanner, W. J. Farrall, and Joseph Scott, and there were two charges against them—behaving in a disorderly manner in Queen's Road East, and assaulting P. C. Man Wo (336) and breaking his police whistle.

P. C. Man Wo said that at about midnight on Wednesday he was on duty in Queen's Road East when he met the defendants. The first defendant put his arms round him and then struck him with his fist. The second took off his helmet and threw it away. The third drew his sword and threw it away. He blew his whistle, whereupon the fourth defendant snatched it from him and threw it away. All the defendants then ran away and he ran after them.

P. C. Fife said that on Wednesday midnight he was on duty in Ship Street when he heard

a police whistle blown, the sound proceeding from the direction of S. Francis Street. He went towards St. Francis Street, and met the complainant, who pointed out the defendants, saying that they had assaulted him. He stopped them and told them what the lukong had said and they denied it. They were perfectly sober. The lukong's chain was down and the whistle was away. The lukong had also lost his hat and sword.

George Davidson, a Sapper in the Royal Engineers, said that at 11.45 p.m. on Wednesday he was on duty at the main gate of Wellington Barracks when he saw a sword come over the wall. He handed the sword to Corporal Ramsden, the canteen orderly.

Lance-Corporal Laurence, of the R. W. F., said that on Wednesday midnight he was on duty in Ship Street. He heard a police whistle blown in the direction of St. Francis Street. He saw Constable Fife running down and he ran after him. He assisted to arrest the defendants. The complainant was walking behind. He had no whistle and his bamboo helmet was gone. His sword was not in the scabbard. He accompanied them to No. 2 Police Station, and subsequently received the sword from Corporal Ramsden and handed it over to Constable Ritchie.

Inspector Ford said that shortly after Wednesday midnight the four defendants were brought to No. 2 Police Station. While he was investigating the charge the first and third defendants behaved in a most disorderly manner. They kept up a continuous flow of insulting and filthy language. They made repeated rushes across the charge room, and climbed on to the platform on which the desk on which he was writing stood. They shook their fists in his face and made several attempts to strike him.

His Worship (Mr. Hazeland) said that with reference to the first charge, the evidence was very clear that any rate the first, second, and third defendants behaved in a most disorderly manner in the presence of Inspector Ford, and he therefore fined them \$10 each, or 14 days. There was practically no evidence against the fourth, so far as the first charge was concerned. As to the second charge he was quite satisfied this Chinese constable was assaulted by all four defendants. They not only assaulted him but behaved in a very disgraceful manner by snatching his whistle, and taking away his sword and throwing it away. It was a most scandalous thing that British sailors should behave in this manner. He would order each of the defendants, for this offence, to be imprisoned for 14 days without the option of a fine.

One of the defendants—I don't know about scandalous. It's a hard word, is scandalous.

His Worship—Remove the defendants.

EXTRAORDINARY KIDNAPPING CASE.

SALUTARY SENTENCES.

Chan I, a married woman, and Fung Kau, servant boy, both of whom are doing six months imprisonment for kidnapping, were charged on remand on the 1st inst. with kidnapping a girl named Li Mui, aged six years, with intent to deprive one Ho A Ha of the charge on the 16th June.

Ho A Ha said she spent three days searching for the child but could not find any trace of her. She was telegraphed for by her own people to come down from Canton to Hongkong, and she saw the child for the first time after it had been lost on her arrival in Hongkong. She never gave any authority for the child to be taken away, nor had she ever borrowed \$100 from either of the defendants.

Li Mui, the little girl, identified Li Hok Chao as her father, and Ho A Ha whom she had been living with. She said she had been told by the first defendant to follow her, saying she was going to be an apprentice to a nun. While out she was supposed to be going to the bank. Before getting to the bank, however, the woman took her back westwards saying she would take her to Aberdeen to see the sights. They got out of the ricksha in Queen's Road and walked up a steep hill up some stone steps leading from High Street, and into a room which was the servants' quarters of the hospital sisters. When she got into the room the first defendant gave her a peach

and a banana and told her not to go away, and to say that her name was Hung Ahoy. After she got to the house with the first defendant she saw the second defendant and both told her to say that they were her parents. After being there some time the woman told her that she had got a letter from her guardian. Ho A Ha, saying that she was ill at Canton, that she had borrowed \$100 from her, and that as most of the people with plague in Canton were dying, the child's guardian was no doubt dead, and witness was now to become defendant's daughter. In the house, the first defendant had changed her clothes, taken off her boots and a silver anklet. Witness recognised the articles of clothing as being hers. She had slept in the same room as the defendants and she also had her rice with them. She was not allowed to go down the stairs. One day she had wandered down the stairs and the second defendant had slapped her face. She remembered that she was a long time in the room, and one day she was told that a Portuguese woman was in search of a little girl to adopt, and witness then left the old house and went to another. It really amounted to a sale to the Portuguese woman. Witness remembered that her old amah, See Sam, had found her one day and had taken her back.

See Sam said she had been amah to the girl for about six years. She remembered the first defendant staying in her house three nights and on the 20th of the fifth moon (16th June) had taken the child out to buy something. She remembered going out on a visit to a house, where she saw the last witness, who had called out to her, and witness had naturally taken possession of the child. She recognised the jacket and shoes as having been worn by the child.

Li Hok Chao said the little girl was his concubine's daughter. The concubine had died in 1898 and he then made a present of the child to Ho A Ha, so that the latter was now the rightful guardian of the child.

Pun Pin, a coolie in the sister's employ, said he recognised the little child. He remembered her being brought to the servants' quarters. She remained there about a month. No further evidence of a satisfactory character could be elicited from this witness. His Worship observing that he was evidently anxious not to say anything against those with whom he had been working.

Chief Detective Inspector Hanson said. "On the 24th September I took the child, Li Mui, into the jail, where she pointed out amongst a number of men the second defendant; also out of a row of women she pointed out the first defendant. On the 25th September, by virtue of an order from the Supreme Court, I took the two defendants out of prison. I took the child and the defendants, down to the room in which the child said she had been detained a considerable time. There the child picked out of a sewing basket belonging to the first defendant, a wallet, and said it belonged to her late amah. She pointed out the shoes, a porcelain figure, and a paper tray. I had missed some of the articles before I found they had been pawned. I redeemed, or obtained from the pawnbroker all the things. When the child was found by the amah, she was taken to the Police Station."

The first defendant said on the 13th day of the fifth moon the men asked her to buy some wines. The person who had introduced her to the nun gave her some wine and made her drunk. She also waved an incense-stick in front of the defendant. On the 16th of the fifth moon A Ha went to Canton, leaving the child behind. That day she gave the defendant \$100. She said her things were with the nun, and some of the child's things were with defendant.

The second defendant said he did nothing in the matter. The whole thing was done by the first defendant.

Mr. Hazeland said from the evidence it was very clear that the first defendant stole the girl from the possession and against the will of her guardian. And further, she took it to the hospital sisters' quarters where the second defendant was a boarder. The whole thing was a conspiracy between the two, the second defendant being, no doubt, as much in the swim as the other. With reference to the second defendant, that when the child had been told not to go down the stairs and had done so, the defendant had slapped the child's face. Evidently they

had been going on in this kidnapping conspiracy as a sort of trade. It was most scandalous. The two defendants were sent to prison for one year, with hard labour, this sentence to be carried out at the expiration of their present term of six months.

THE FATAL COOLIE QUARREL AT EAST POINT.

Our readers may remember that on the morning of the 19th September a quarrel took place among the coolies employed at the Sugar Refinery at East Point. Several were injured, one so seriously that he died shortly afterwards. His name was Cheng Yau Hong. Two men named Wu Tai Ngan and Wu Chung Tsun are in custody charged with wilful murder. They appeared before Mr. Hazeland on the 2nd inst.

Mr. F. B. L. Bowley (Messrs. Dennys and Bowley) appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. J. Hays (Messrs. Johnson, Stokes, and Master) watched the case on behalf of one of the witnesses.

Mr. Bowley said the case arose out of a riot which took place among the coolies employed at the China Sugar Refinery. It seemed that on the morning of the 19th September some 20 or 30 coolies were engaged in stacking bags of sugar inside the Refinery. Two of them surnamed Cheng began to quarrel with two others surnamed Wu. At about half-past eight the coolies went to their breakfast. As soon as they got outside the Refinery they renewed the dispute, and commenced to fight in the road. As the result of that fight two men seemed to have been rather badly injured. A lukong who appeared on the scene found there two men in the road when all the rest had gone away. They were two of the four who were in at the original quarrel, and were taken in charge by the lukong. One was a Cheng and the other a Wu. The last-named charged the other with assault. The case was remanded, and as at the subsequent hearing the complainant did not appear it was dismissed. It seemed that the other Cheng went to his coolie house in Jardine's Bazaar, and here fire or six men, including the prisoners, threw themselves upon him, ultimately leaving him senseless on the ground, where he was found three-quarters of an hour afterwards by a detective and taken to the Hospital, where it was discovered that his spleen was ruptured. He was operated upon, but the man died, and the prisoners, who were originally charged with assault, were now charged with wilful murder.

Evidence in support of Mr. Bowley's statement was given, and the prisoners were remanded.

THE PORTUGUESE FESTIVITIES AT MACAO.

[BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVE.]

On Friday, the 28th ult., the ancient and picturesque Portuguese colony of Macao put off its customary quietness to celebrate on a most enthusiastic and vivacious scale the birthday of its sovereign and his consort. It is a remarkable coincidence that the anniversaries of the natal days of T. M. the King and Queen of Portugal fall on the same day, and this naturally added additional enthusiasm to the birthday celebrations. Macao is renowned for its festivals, and on Friday the colony was *en fete*. The arrival of the military expedition from Portugal and the presence of two Portuguese ships of war in the harbour have necessarily quickened social life in Macao, and the hitherto placid little colony now bears the aspect of an important garrison town. Soldiers and sailors are everywhere met with, and the martial appearance of the colony is emphasised by the trenches and other military works constructed and under construction for the protection of the city.

Although such preparations have been made to resist possible attacks from the Chinese, H.E. the Governor, in conversation with our representative, said he was perfectly at ease, and did not fear any anti-foreign outbreaks on the part of the natives, either in or around the colony. The Chinese on the mainland were, in fact, very friendly with the Portuguese authorities and were very peaceably inclined. Still, he considered it necessary to take every precaution,

and having been formerly a military engineer, he was able to see that the defences were adequate for protective purposes.

At noon on Friday H.E. José Maria de Souza Horta e Costa, the Governor of Macao, received his nationals and a telegram of congratulation was sent off at 1 p.m. to their Majesties the King and Queen of Portugal.

In the afternoon His Excellency, attended by his staff, in the presence of many hundreds of spectators, reviewed the troops. All the officers were in full uniform, and there were also present the commanders and officers of the British torpedo-boat destroyers, the *Handy* and *Otter*, which had been sent specially to Macao to salute the Portuguese flag on this occasion. The troops numbered nearly one thousand officers and men, and these were put on parade without lessening the usual number on the ordinary garrison duty. The spectacle was very animating, the uniforms of the Portuguese officers being very smart and attractive. The sections taking part consisted of infantry, artillery and a naval brigade from the men-of-war *Adamastor* and *Zaire*. The soldiers just arrived from Lisbon are a well-set up body of men, and could no doubt do useful work if called upon. They are attired in what is generally termed a "holland" uniform, with brown felt slouch hats, and top boots coming just below the knee. They are armed with magazine rifles and sword bayonets. The Artillery men are all of good physique. The sailors presented also a smart appearance, and gave the idea that like the British handy men they would prove good and useful fighting material. In addition to the European troops there were also on parade contingents of Indian and Chinese soldiers, the latter being very well drilled. The review passed off most successfully, and it also served the useful purpose of impressing the Chinese with a sense of the military preparedness. The officers in charge of the troops were Major F. F. Maher and Major A. Moraes Bessa Varnhagem, to whom credit is due for the success of the parade.

In the evening the Praya Grande presented a very festive appearance, the facade of the Governor's Palace being covered with coloured fairy lamps and Japanese lanterns. All the public buildings were similarly illuminated, and at some distance from the shore, lying at anchor in deep water, was depicted in electric lamps the outline of the cruiser *Adamastor*, a very pretty effect.

At 10 p.m. His Excellency the Governor and Senhora Horta e Costa gave a ball in their palace which was attended by about 300 guests, including the Portuguese military and naval officers, the officers of the British destroyers, several foreign consuls, civil officials, the leading civilians, and many ladies. A military string band was in attendance, and the entertainment was a pronounced success. The wants of the guests were attended to with characteristic Portuguese hospitality, a substantial supper being provided, and dancing was kept up to a very early hour in the morning. The programme of the ball was as follows:—Quadrilha, Valsa, Lanciros, Valsa, Quadrilha, Barn Dance, Lanciros, Valsa, Quadrilha, Valsa, Lanciros, Barn Dance, Quadrilha, Polka, Lanciros, Valsa, Quadrilha, Galope.

On Saturday His Excellency entertained the British naval officers at dinner. His Excellency, wife and staff are extremely popular in the colony, and everyone seemed grateful for the festivities that had been provided and the opportunity given for a unanimous expression of loyalty. This is the third time His Excellency has administered Macao, having arrived there on his present term of office only a few weeks ago from Lisbon. His administration is said to be just and progressive. Apart from the recommendation to public esteem which this extremely conveys, he is popular for his social proclivities.

Twenty wounded and invalided French soldiers have been discharged as cured from the Japanese military hospital at Hiroshima, and were brought here, says the *Nagasaki Press*. Forty French troops were also released from the local temporary French hospital on the same day. All of these soldiers, as well as eighty others from the French hospital ship *Nice* in the harbour, altogether 140 in number, have been sent home in the M.M. steamer *Saluzie*.

ROYAL NAVAL CANTEEN.

The Trustees of the Royal Naval Canteen very thankfully acknowledge the receipt of the following subscriptions to their Fund:—

Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. ...	£500
" Butterfield and Swire ...	500
Mr. Ho Tung ...	500
" David Sassoon, Sons & Co. ...	250
" E. D. Sassoon & Co. ...	250
" Reiss & Co. ...	250
Messrs. Calbeck, MacGregor & Co. ...	250
" Gibb, Livingston & Co. ...	250
Messrs. Deacon and Hastings ...	200
" Benjamin, Kelly & Potts ...	100
Mr. C. Evens ...	100
" A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd. ...	100
" Johnson, Stokes & Master. ...	100
Captain Hixson, N. S. W. N. ...	10
Lieutenant Hixson, N. S. W. N. ...	10
	\$3,370

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 29th September.

THE VICEROYALTY OF CANTON.

It is said in Mandarin circles that there will soon be a new Viceroy of Canton, as H.E. Lu Chuan Lin, the Governor of Kiangsu, and late of Canton, will be promoted to be the Viceroy of Kwangtung and Kwangsi, and Hok Ling, the Governor of Kiangsi, be transferred to Kiangsu.

THE FALSE EDICT.

The Acting Viceroy, Tak Sow, issued a proclamation two days ago contradicting the false Edict, and cautioning the people not to be deceived by it, as it was the work of some evil-disposed persons who had invented a story with intent to stir up disturbances. Like many other Chinese official documents of a similar kind the proclamation contains many promises and threats which it is never intended to carry out.

THE ANTI-CHRISTIAN FEELING.

Another anti-Christian riot broke out the other day in Sham Leak, in the vicinity of Shek Loong and Chun Chün, 15 miles from Canton, 150 persons being rendered homeless and 50 houses demolished.

Over a hundred native Christians arrived here from Shek Loong three days ago, and took shelter in the residences of the French Mission, near the Roman Catholic Cathedral. On the 24th inst. a mob of Chinese assembled in the vicinity, and began yelling and shouting and threatening the converts and declaring that they would set fire to the Cathedral. Fortunately some soldiers were stationed near, and they dispersed the mob before much damage was done.

THE BRIGANDS GET BOLDER.

It is reported that there has been a rising of the banditti in the districts of Hoi Ping and Hok-Shan, and that during this month not a house or shanty had escaped being attacked and robbed.

In Chun Chow in the province of Kwangsi brigandage is re-appearing, some of the brigands making the mountain fastnesses their head quarters, and others hiding in the villages. The native soldiers have tried to catch them, but have not succeeded, being outnumbered and obliged to beat a retreat. The official in command of the army at once sent a requisition to the Viceroy Tak Sow for reinforcement; the latter replied that he could hardly spare him any troops from Canton, as of late the robbery and anti-Christian riots had increased. So he ordered the Commander Cheang Wai Lum to despatch two regiments, and as he goes along by the North River route to pick up more soldiers by the way.

Canton, 1st October.

GOOD WORK BY THE FRENCH AND CHINESE COMBINED.

The French gunboat *Avouache* returned on Sunday, the 30th ult., from Shon Tak, having done some pretty good work. It seems that the districts and villages in which the anti-Christian riots broke out recently, causing so much looting and destruction of houses and leading to the flight of so many native converts, are now fairly

quiet. Two days ago the French Vice-Consul went with General Li of the Kwong Hip regiment and 500 soldiers to Shon Tak and Yung Kee. The prefect of Shon Tak received them with a guard of honour and conducted them to inspect those places where the mob had looted and destroyed. Afterwards they went into a big public hall, and held an enquiry, the Nam Hoi Magistrate also being present. This time the mandarins in co-operating with the French by order of the Viceroy, have done some good work; four principal leaders of the riots have been beheaded in Sat. m., and a great number of other culprits have been arrested and now await their sentences.

A RELIEF FUND.

It is said that the recent troubles were partly caused by the false edict, and partly by the connivance and complicity of the mandarins and gentry of the villages. Another report attribute all to the machinations of Kang Yu-wai's partisans, who wanted to raise trouble and create ill-feeling with foreign nations so as to start a fresh rebellion in Kwangtung like that up North; but I attach no weight to the latter story. The Acting Viceroy has promised an indemnity for the victims and severe punishment for those who took part in the rioting. He has already opened a subscription, leading the list himself, among the mandarins and the rich men of Canton, to afford temporary relief to those who suffered by the recent riots, Christians as well as non-Christians.

AN AMERICAN FUNERAL.

On Sunday afternoon the remains of Hugh Muller, of the U.S.S. *Don Juan d'Austria*, who died on Saturday, the 29th ult., of gastritis, after an illness of several days, were buried at the Public Cemetery near the Macao Fort. He deceased was an Irish-American Roman Catholic, and at the special request of Consul McWalt two French priests and four Chinese clerical assistants performed the requiem service on board the ship and at the grave. The Lieut. Commander of H.I.G.M.S. *Luchs* and a party of marines attended the service on board the ship, as well as an escort from the Shameen Guard, under a Chinese officer specially sent by H.E. the Acting Viceroy as a mark of respect to the dead and a tribute to the American nation.

A SHAMEN RUMOUR.

It is stated, but I do not believe the truth of the report, that one of the Consuls in Shameen has received a telegram to the effect that Russia is going to send her warships to blockade all the Chinese ports during the peace negotiations.

WUCHOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Wuchow, 1st October.

A SORROWFUL EDICT.

An Imperial Edict by telegraph has just been received here, in which the usual lament is made over the troubles that have fallen on China, which are to be attributed to the bad advice given by the high officials to the Court, and to their misplaced encouragement of the Boxer element. It gives the names of a lot of officials who are to be handed over to the Board of Punishment and further orders that certain of them shall perform propitiatory rites to the *manes* of the late Baron von Ketteler, whose death the Edict again acknowledges and deplors. It likewise adds that the Chinese Minister in Berlin is to offer similar sacrifices in that city.

HOW TO CONCILIATE GERMANY.

The idea, of course, is that the sight of the Chinese Minister going in a hansom-cab to the steps of (the German equivalent of) St. Paul's Cathedral, with a string of crackers, a piece of pork, and a bunch of red joss-paper hanging out of the window, is the sort of thing that the German Emperor is likely to accept as reparation for the cowardly murder of his representative in Peking!

At a grand entertainment in Stettin in connection with some military manoeuvres, the Emperor of Germany is said to have advanced in front of the senior Japanese officer present, and to have proposed in a loud voice the health of the Japanese troops now fighting in North China. The incident attracted much attention.

TIENTSIN.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Tientsin, 19th September.
PUNITIVE WORK.

The Peking news is that the second function of the Field Force, viz., its punitive agency, is at last coming into play. Why the responsible leaders have been so long in abstaining from this urgent duty is best known to themselves. The Boxers in the absence of arms and real discipline may be contemptible as an enemy in the field, but none the less have they been the *fons et origo* of the whole volcanic upheaval; and until their society and hocus pocus have been reduced to discredit they will still be a tremendous power for evil, and a source of disquietude to the natives, if not to the foreigners. Incredible as it may seem, faith still has its victory over sense, and they still vaunt them of their thaumaturgic rubbish and maintain that their mystic spells and supernatural power only fail because of (1) the unbelief of the elect, (2) of the breaking of their charms by the more powerful exorcism of the foreigner, or by the presence of women in the scene of action. Truly might the American boy observe that "Faith is the belief in things that you know ain't so": the Boxer movement and Christian Science are not mental exotics even at the end of the XIXth. Century; but let us come to fact. Reconnaissances were made by the Lancers (1st Bengal) and Germans in succession away to the S. W. of Lau-ko-chian or Polo's Bridge. They found the Boxers in force near Liang Hsiang, the first station on the Pao-tingfu line. Next day a large body of Germans went out accompanied by fifty Lancers, and engaged the enemy. It was an affair and no battle: some five hundred (I quote the smallest number given) were killed and apparently some escaped. The Germans had one killed and five wounded, including an officer.

A LITTLE OUTING.

Tientsin in the same week but, a day or two earlier, had a similar affair in hand. General Dordard took out some 2,000 odd men towards Du Liu (23 miles down the Grand Canal). He had all arms, including a complete cavalry regiment and a fine battery of Horse Artillery, and made his dispositions to bag the whole covey if fight were offered, but the inhabitants met him with absolutely no resistance and took their punishment like Gentle Jane in the Sunday school story. Du Liu has for many years been notorious as a rowdy anti-foreign city: foreign boat-passengers were always insulted and often robbed and threatened in transit; and moreover throughout this great sedition it has had an evil reputation as a Boxer centre. They knew punishment was coming and had transferred much of their goods and wealth into junks: they begged to be allowed to go on board of these: this was granted. The column was given permission to loot two large pawn-shops before the town was fired and burned completely out. The 'outing' took four days and was greatly enjoyed as such by the men and officers though the regret was widespread that there was no enemy to fight.

THE STATE OF TIENTSIN.

Tientsin has ever since been ludicrously like Rag Fair: at every street corner the swarthy Aryans are to be seen selling old clothes by pantomime, and a crowd of clamorous Chinese coolies eager to buy cheap, but failing miserably in the attempt. Women's underwear and winter clothing figure largely in the sale and offer of course illimitable chances of wit to the wags and scally-wags of both races.

Coolie wages run from 30 to 50 cents. per diem and generally with rice thrown in. There can be no doubt that many of the thousands now employed by the different Commissariats are quondam Boxers. The metamorphosis is easy—simply doffing some ribbons: thus we get the startling paradox that would-be homicides are now being rewarded by higher wages and better food by their putative victims.

THE MONEY MARKET.

For the first time in three months the Bank to-day bought specie and sold dollars in the normal way. I believe it is still forbidden, however, to soldiers and sailors, so as not to encourage the disposal of illegally held loot. For months the paying in rate of Mexicans has

been Tls. 70, and the issue rate Tls. 75 figures exhibiting this discrepancy still obtain in some banks.

A LULL IN THE FIGHT.

A large expeditionary force is being organized in Peking for Châ-Chou, a big prefectural city in Southern Chihli, and practically the head-quarters of the Boxer movement. There is a universal tendency apparent all round to defer all new movements until the arrival of Count von Waldersee.

CONSUL CURLES RETIRES.

Mr. W. R. Carles, the Consul of Tientsin, retires on a pension from the service this week: there is of course much speculation as to the inner meaning of this very unexpected step.

AN OFFICIAL RECALL.

It was reported in Peking last week that M. de Giers was recalled. I believe this is wrong: it is Admiral Hildebrandt, the senior officer in Taku, who is recalled. Common report ascribes the recall to official condemnation of the decision by which the ultimatum was sent in to the Taku forts on June 16th; if this be true it reveals a very low ebb in official ineptitude. The Peking official folk all more or less affect the theory that this ultimatum was the sole cause of the attack on the Legation and on the Tientsin Settlements; but surely the history of the last six months does not support the notion that the official Peking view is a sound one. Almost to a man every lay judge in North China holds that the ultimatum only precipitated the crisis; it did not create it. Native Tientsin and Peking cities had gone hopelessly "Boxer" before the ultimatum was dreamed of, and it was only a question of one or two days that the officials and troops would declare for them also. The taking of the forts was a desperate remedy, and, like all such, created much disturbance in the body politic, but it certainly saved our lives. It is not generally known that 8,000 men were actually marching from Lutai to re-inforce the garrison at the forts at the moment of the attack. It was only due to a railway civilian that these men did not get rail transit and come down in two hours. Great issues hang on small causes. It is to be devoutly hoped that the gallant Russian sailor is not going to suffer for a sound strong policy and to be Jonahized to save the face of a weak Minister!

THE COMING ATTACK ON PEITANG.

Every day for the last nine weeks we have been told that the Pei Tang forts were about to be bombarded and stormed: numberless reconnaissances have been made. I believe it is at last to be done. Some people who affect to be behind the scenes say that the whole thing has been arranged: that the Allies are to make a show of attack, the Chinese a show of resistance, and that all will be over in half an hour. The poor Commander wants to save his face, and the half-starved garrison to get back to their wives and families. I must profess some scepticism as to this pretty scheme. I think there will be a fight. The ground is well mined, though mines under Chinese management are not very effective. The co-operation of the Navy is doubtful, but military men think the heavier guns at the Taku Forts will try long bowls—5½ or 6 miles. We know the Russian, French, and Germans are in it, as these forces have entrained to-day: as the Japanese are very strong at their Taku base they will probably be there too. Our people are supposed to be in it by the British officers here, but the Russians assert we have elected to stand out and are growling accordingly. I need not state that the Pei Tang Forts command the Railway and communication with the Far North as well as the Tong Shan Coal pits.

Later, 6 p.m.

LI HUNG-CHANG ARRIVES.

I hear on the authority of a foreign Consul here that Li Hung-chang has reached Tongku to-day. He was allowed to pass through the Fleet flying his own flag, but Admiral Bendemann, now senior officer, followed the *Anping* up, and told the old Seung Sang that he could not be allowed to proceed until the arrival of Count Waldersee.

Li has been expected for the last six days, and was understood to be about to take up his quarters in Chang Yen-mao's great Yamen-like place in the Bt. Municipal Extension, though as that is Japanese head-quarters it was difficult to see how it could well be.

The Russians are willing that he should come, and indeed had an imposing military demonstration at Chun Liang-chung in his honour, as well as a guard of honour at Tientsin Station. They moreover sent down a special train for him, so that if the German Admiral has stopped him there will be some sore feeling on the subject.

SANDAKAN NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Sandakan, 23rd September.

THE RESIGNATION OF GOVERNOR CLIFFORD.

Confirming the cable message sent you a couple of days ago, it is with the greatest possible regret that the general community here have learned that H.E. Hugh Clifford, C.M.G., is wishful of resigning the Governorship, and has cabled home to that effect. Many reasons for his desire are given, but the probable one is the railway from Jesselton, now being constructed by Messrs. Paulingi, and of which he entirely disapproves. If this is the case Mr. Clifford is certainly showing his disapproval in the strongest possible manner in his power, and no one will ever be able to saddle him with any responsibility for the railway. At the same time, it will be a thousand pities if he be allowed to resign. The unanimous opinion is that Governor Clifford is the best man the country has ever had, and that it has every possible chance of proving itself under his guidance. He has not been with us long, but it is safe to say his influence has been felt by all, and has penetrated every branch of the Government, planting, and commercial life of the territory.

THE LOSS OF THE "SABINE."

About the time of the despatch of my last news notes to you, the small Sandakan steamer *Sabine* was slightly overdue. As the vessel did not arrive back here in due course, and there was no word of her at the first port she was to have visited, Joló, the steamer *Normankurat* was sent out to search the islands between here and Joló. She spent nearly five days in this work, and returned with one of the *Sabine's* boats, a lot of small wreckage, and reported the finding of two bodies. The vessel had about 47 passengers and 17 crew on board, of which not a single person would appear to have escaped. She was Chinese owned, and neither hull nor cargo was insured. Everything possible has been done to find any survivors, but, unfortunately, without the slightest success. Her disappearance is a mystery, and, as the actual wreck has not been found, it is probable that it will never be known definitely how she was lost.

A STEAMER FOR MANILA.

The East India S.S. Co., Ltd., have now started running steamers to Manila from Singapore, via Sandakan. The first steamer sailed hence this day week, and the second leaves here to-morrow.

MANILA.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 28th September.

INSURGENTS SCORE SEVERAL SUCCESSES—
FIFTY-SEVEN AMERICANS REPORTED
CAPTURED IN MARINDUQUE.

As the time of the Presidential elections in the United States draws near the insurgents are fulfilling their promises and showing a spurt of hostility that outdistances the hopes of their greatest admirers. At no time during the insurrection have the Filipinos been more determined and aggressive, and seldom have they met with more success. The greater part of the fighting has taken place in central and southern Luzon, but disturbances have been and are general throughout the Archipelago. Three or four well planned ambushes have caused severe losses to the Americans, and though every effort has been put forward to bring swift punishment to the enemy, it must be admitted that only very little has been accomplished. The losses of the Americans in killed, wounded, and captured, during one fortnight amount to between ninety and one hundred, while the reported casualties of the enemy were about one hundred and twenty-five. Such things as these are alarming. As a rule the losses inflicted on the insurgents are five to ten times heavier than those sustained by the Americans.

On top of all this comes a report from the island of Marinduque, as yet unverified, that fifty-seven men of the 29th Volunteer Infantry have been captured. It is known that a command of this size left Santa Cruz on the gunboat *Villalobos*, and proceeded some twenty-five miles down the coast to Torrijos, where the enemy was reported to be in force. The gunboat landed them and soon steamed away. Since that time, September 14th, nothing has been heard of the soldiers. However, numerous reports of their fate have come in from many different sources, and these nearly all agree in the story that a large body of Filipinos surrounded the Americans, fought them for several hours, and after killing and wounding several, forced the others to surrender, as the ammunition was exhausted. If it is true, it is the first case of the surrender of a force of any size to the insurgents. A gunboat has been sent with two companies of the 38th Infantry to the scene of the reported fight; but up to the present no word has been received from the expedition.

THE INSURGENT DIPLOMACY.

During the last three weeks the residents of Manila have been treated to an experience something like that endured during the first half of the year 1898. Small bands of insurgents elated by their successes have persistently attacked many of the towns in Cavite province and were even bold enough to annoy the whole line of villages that fringe the bay from Cavite to Calocan. The noise of the firing could be heard in Manila very plainly, and at night there was considerable anxiety among the residents. In many parts of the city special guards were posted about the houses in which army families were living. In all probability this activity on the part of the insurgents will continue to the time of the elections. Every one feels that the present surprising aggressiveness is a grand effort to influence public opinion at the critical moment when the people of the country are deeply interested in national affairs, caused by the election of the President. And it is very possible that their work is not in vain, for the determined stand made during these days will no doubt influence many votes that would have been cast for Mr. McKinley.

THE CIVIL COMMISSION AT WORK.

The public sessions held twice a week in the rooms of the Civil Commission are proving very popular. The Filipinos are beginning to realize that anyone who desires to express himself on matters of government can be heard if he simply has the energy to notify the President of the Commission one day in advance. The various bills are publicly read and debated and some of these discussions have produced valuable suggestions and modifications from among the audience. Last Wednesday the Bill of Commissioner Moses providing for a bureau of statistics was read and passed. On next Wednesday Commissioner Wright will present for final consideration his important Harbour Bill, which provides for the extensive and permanent improvement of the harbours.

The Civil Service Act is one of the most comprehensive and important works of the commission, and it has produced an immediate good effect, for it outlines the advantages that are to be enjoyed by the Filipinos in the service of the government.

MABINI AT LIBERTY.

Last Sunday General McArthur liberated the poor old paralytic Sr. Mabini, who has been slowly failing in the Anda Street jail. Mabini is probably the staunchest and "brainiest" insurgent that the war has produced. In spite of his shattered and useless body he has been at all times the head and centre of the insurrection. He has been most considerately treated through all the months of confinement, and he has been more the guest of the government than a prisoner of war. Once before he was liberated, but his rash utterances soon caused his rearrest. He still refuses to swear allegiance to the United States, but he agrees to assume a passive attitude, and not stir up trouble.

A military society has been lately organized in Tokyo with the object of rendering necessary assistance to the needy families of those who either fell sick or lost their lives during the campaign in North China. In Tokyo and Yokohama alone over 1,000 persons have joined the society.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

SAILORS AND SOLDIERS' CHINA RELIEF FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
SIR.—I have just received a message from Col. Prendergast, Royal Engineers, commanding at Weihaiwei, that the articles of clothing so kindly subscribed for through you by the residents of Hongkong, and made up by various ladies of Hongkong, have reached the Hospitals, and were of the greatest use. I think you will be glad to learn this.—Yours etc.,

W. J. GASCOIGNE,
Major-General.

Hongkong, 29th September, 1900.

THE KOWLOON WATER SUPPLY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

3, Kimberley Villas,
Kowloon, 2nd October.

SIR.—Mr. Ormsby is reported to have stated at yesterday's meeting of the Finance Committee that the only complaint he had had regarding meters registering air was "a case in which \$1.80 was paid by the occupants of a whole terrace" for excess. I beg respectfully to correct the honourable gentleman. Major Brown complained of the same thing the other day at the Sanitary Board meeting, and previous to that I myself wrote Mr. Ormsby—and I have his acknowledgment, dated 26th Sept. I complained not so much of having \$2.85 to pay for my own house alone (not for a whole terrace—as I have a meter for my own house) but because of having had to go through the summer months with scarcely any water at all and then be charged with using water in excess of the quantity allowed.

As I mentioned also that I was in the habit of turning on taps at night in the hope of getting some water before morning and that I was informed that my meter then registered air, I am afraid he had my case in his mind when he spoke yesterday. If so, I think he might with advantage be a little more exact when stating a case. If not, then he must have under-stated his number of complaints.

I can assure the honourable gentleman there will be no need for him to prosecute me for *wasting water* on such occasions, as only for a very short period, usually about half an hour, did the water ever come on at night—sometimes about 10 p.m., when it was not required for that day—and other times about 2 or 3 a.m.—then there would not be any for the rest of that day—and I myself was always on the alert to prevent waste.

I must add, sir, that for about a week now our water supply has greatly improved, but after Major Brown's description at the Sanitary Board Meeting, of the Pumping Machinery at Yaumati, we have scarcely sufficient confidence to be without a small reserve stock in the house. I must at same time thank the members of the Sanitary Board for having so eloquently voiced the wants of the Kowloon community on this subject.—Yours, etc.,

ALEX MACKENZIE.

When the troopships are once more running between Southampton and Bombay, writes a Lahore paper, the number of time-expired soldiers to be sent Home to the Reserve will be abnormally large. Soldiering for a period of years in India, the real training school of the British Army, has turned these men into steady, seasoned and well-disciplined soldiers, and they may truly be described as the flower of our short service arms. A correspondent of a leading service paper, writing from India, makes the suggestion that some of these men, instead of being discharged to the Reserve, should be permitted to rejoin the colours at Home. Hundreds of them, he points out, simply claim their discharge to the Reserve through home-sickness. All they want is a sight of the old country again. After a spell of soldiering at Home they would gladly return to India for duty.

THE DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

MR. T. HOWARD PUTS A FEW PERTINENT QUESTIONS.

On Saturday, 29th ult., the seventeenth ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the Douglas Steamship Company Limited was held in the offices, Praya Central. Mr. J. H. Lewis presided, and there were also present the Hon. J. J. Keswick, Messrs. C. S. Sharp and R. Shewan (Consulting Committee), W. Parfitt (Secretary), A. G. Morris, H. P. White, D. Gillies, J. H. Cox, T. F. Hough, T. Howard, A. H. Babington, J. C. Peter, C. H. Thompson, W. H. Gaskell, W. S. Bailey, Captain Roach, W. H. Davis, S. A. Joseph, Chun Sue, Captain Clarke, and E. Georg.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen: The report and accounts which have been in your hands for some days, we will, with your permission, take as read. The unfortunate result of the year's working is a matter of great regret to us all, and as indicated in the report has been brought about by the keen opposition of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, which company, since April last, has run a steamer on the Tainanfoo line in addition to their Tamsui steamers, all being subsidized and encouraged in every possible way by the Government. As stated in the report, there was hope in the early part of the year of a satisfactory agreement with this opposition company, but after much procrastination we were informed that nothing could be decided in this direction for the present. In the meantime they continued cutting rates to very unremunerative levels, and as further the imposition of differential duties diverted a large percentage of the traffic direct from Japan to Formosan ports, we found it necessary to gradually withdraw tonnage previously engaged in the Formosa trade. So long as there was a prospect of an equitable arrangement with the opposition, and the continuance of a fair trade, I think most of you will agree that we could not abruptly sacrifice a connection which has consistently and liberally supported us in the past, assisting us to pay steady dividends, and build up a substantial reserve: a reserve, gentlemen, out of which a bonus of \$15 per share in 1895 and \$2 per share in 1896 was paid, in addition to dividends of 12 per cent.; in fact since 1895 shareholders have received \$41 per share by way of bonus and dividend. As regards our present position, it is gratifying to reflect that we still retain the confidence of shippers, and should the former condition of affairs on the Formosa lines return, even approximately, we have every assurance of commanding the best support. The Osaka Shosen Kaisha now circulate a fortnightly steamer on the Hongkong-Foochow line, but they will not on this line enjoy the semi-official favour and protection as in Formosa. I am glad to state that since the end of June our earnings are fairly satisfactory, and prospects encourage us to confidently anticipate, with a fleet of the class and efficiency such as we possess, the return of prosperous years. We have lately been in communication with a shareholder on the subject of the form of presenting the company's yearly accounts. The gentleman (Mr. Howard) is of opinion that the published accounts should show details of income and expenditure, instead of merely the net results, as hitherto. The question has been raised before, and it was decided—in the interests of the company—to adhere to the old system. By publishing details—especially under existing circumstances—we should be giving our competitors valuable information, which they would promptly take advantage of, to our loss and prejudice, and we look to the sense of the general body of shareholders to support us in this view. Before moving the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

Mr. HOWARD—I should like to know how you propose to transfer an amount from the reserve fund to meet this loss of \$85,000 when no provision is made in the Articles of Association for such transfer? How can you do it without a special resolution?

The CHAIRMAN said the reserve fund was built up to meet contingencies such as that

which had unfortunately arisen. They could transfer the money by special resolution. If it was necessary to alter the Articles of Association they would do so, but he did not think it would be necessary.

Mr. HOWARD—I see in this report that some of the steamers were withdrawn from the Formosa line. At what time were they withdrawn?

The CHAIRMAN—At different times as occasion required.

Mr. HOWARD—I never heard; before the 30th of June?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, long before.

Mr. HOWARD—Why did you not put some of the steamers on the Manila line?

The CHAIRMAN—I do not think that is a proper question, Mr. Howard, but at the same time I do not mind telling you that in past years we have practically had the monopoly of the Foochow and Formosa line when we might have been interfered with by very powerful neighbours. As long as we had the prospect of continuing our prosperous trade it would have been very bad form to run in opposition to these companies.

Mr. HOWARD—Then you go on losing money.

The CHAIRMAN—It does not follow that if we had had a steamer on the Manila line we would not have had opposition. It is not good policy to put a steamer on one line when it becomes profitable and then change it when times are bad. There is a lot of give and take in this world. Generally, I think the policy you advocate is a very bad one.

Mr. HOWARD—When you come to have a loss of from \$20,000 to \$30,000 on these Formosa steamers I think it is time we were seeing about a change. In addition to the commission of 5 per cent. on the gross earnings of the company, do you charge 2½ per cent. for paying the company's own money for wages, coal and repairs to steamers?

The CHAIRMAN—No, we are allowed 2½ per cent. on disbursements.

Mr. HOWARD—Are wages disbursements?

The CHAIRMAN—I can assure you that we do not take advantage of the Articles of Association to charge commission on everything paid out.

Mr. HOWARD—The Articles of Association say here distinctly that a statement of income and expenditure will be laid before the meeting. Is that anything like a statement of expenditure?

The CHAIRMAN—Certainly.

Mr. HOWARD—No, it is not. Do you charge 5 per cent. commission on the freight and passage money collected by your agents at the coast ports?

The CHAIRMAN—We simply get 5 per cent. on the total freight out of Hongkong; we get no other commission.

Mr. HOWARD—In view of the loss of \$65,000 for the year, with opposition still going on, don't you think the time has come for a reduction of your commission?

The CHAIRMAN—Most certainly not. The more firm the opposition the harder the work.

Mr. HOWARD—Will you tell me how much your commission amounted to last year?

The CHAIRMAN—I do not think you are entitled to that information. By giving that information we would be giving competitors a clue as to what freights are out of Hongkong.

Mr. HOWARD—We want to know.

The CHAIRMAN—I do not think you are entitled to that, Mr. Howard.

Mr. HOWARD—I submit I am entitled to it.

The CHAIRMAN—If the shareholders wish it I will answer it.

Mr. HOWARD—Taking into consideration that the shareholders had no dividend last year, and knowing that there still remains large reserve and insurance funds, are you prepared to give the shareholders a bonus of \$3 per share from reserve fund?

The CHAIRMAN—Certainly not.

No more questions being asked, the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. GILLIES seconded and the motion was carried, Messrs. Howard and Joseph dissenting.

Mr. MORRIS proposed that the Hon. J. J. Keswick, Messrs. J. A. Mackay, R. Shewan and C. S. Sharp be re-elected the Consulting Committee. He said—These gentlemen that are now on your Consulting Committee are all men interested in shipping. I feel now that they will look after the interests of this company to the best of their ability. You have stated

that you have been passing through troublous times, but perhaps things are working, and from my own knowledge things are working more satisfactorily for you, and with this prosperity before us let us hope to see everything working smoothly and comfortably for all concerned. Mr. Howard suggested a bonus to shareholders. I think myself that would be a suicidal policy. I would not kill the goose that lays the golden eggs. I was one of the shareholders who moved last year for the payment of \$3 per share of a dividend. I then saw you were in a perfectly fit state to do it, but I think it would not be to the advantage of shareholders to take from the present reserve fund. As I said before, I can only hope we will see better times, and the Consulting Committee will do their utmost.

Mr. DAVIS seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. DAVIS, seconded by Mr. JOSEPH, Messrs. J. H. Cox and W. H. Gaskell were appointed auditors.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business of the meeting, gentlemen. I have listened with much interest to the questions by Mr. Howard and the remarks from Mr. Morris. As regards the form of presenting the accounts and carrying forward a debit balance we will take counsel and, if necessary, we will call an extraordinary general meeting. As regards the prospects of the company, I think they are very good indeed, and should the six months' working fairly justify the payment of an interim dividend I think the Consulting Committee will recommend it, considering that we have been without one for two years.

Mr. MORRIS—There is a prospect of that?

The CHAIRMAN—There is a prospect.

CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the Thirty-fourth Ordinary Meeting, to be held on Tuesday, the 23rd October, at noon.

The directors have now to lay before the shareholders the accompanying statement of accounts for the year ended 30th April last.

The net premium amount to \$1,150,004.06 and the working account shows a balance at credit of \$476,862.64, which sum the directors recommend be appropriated in the following manner:—

A dividend of 16 per cent. to shareholders (\$4 per share)	\$ 96,000.00
A dividend of 15 per cent. on contributions, payable to all contributors of business whether shareholders or not	125,000.00
To be carried to new account	255,862.64
	<u>\$476,862.64</u>

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. A. Haupt and P. Sachse retire by rotation and offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The annexed accounts have been audited by Messrs T. Arnold and H. U. Jeffries, who offer themselves for re-election.

A. J. RAYMOND,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 29th September, 1900.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH APRIL, 1900.

ASSETS.		\$	c.
Cash in hand	.....	55,996.18	
Fixed deposits with banks	.....	295,000.00	
Invested in mortgages of properties:—			
In Hongkong	.....	\$622,500.00	
In Shanghai	.....	153,287.68	
In Melbourne	.....	7,000.00	
		<u>782,787.68</u>	
Bonds of Chinese Imperial Government loan, 1886, 142 bonds at Tls. 250—Tls. 35,500	.....	46,192.41	
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, debentures	.....	150,000.00	
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd., debentures	.....	5,479.45	
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co., Limited, debentures	.....	50,273.97	
London branch:—			
Cash in hand	.....	\$165,921.52	
Indian Government securities	.....	364,726.25	
Fixed deposits with banks	.....	90,000.00	
Remittances in transit	.....	40,396.61	
		<u>601,044.38</u>	
Australasian branches:—			
Cash in hand, in course of collection, and on fixed deposit	.....	119,324.40	

Shanghai branch:—

Cash in hand, in course of collection, and on fixed deposit	.....	68,056.54
Yokohama branch:—		
Cash in hand, in course of collection, and on fixed deposit	.....	21,592.80
Interest accrued, but not yet payable	.....	12,791.04
Furniture at head office and branches	.....	5,216.63
Sundry debtors	.....	22,730.70
		<u>\$2,296,486.16</u>

LIABILITIES.

	\$	c.
Capital subscribed	\$2,000,000.00	
Paid-up \$25 on 24, 10 shares	600,000.00	
Reserve fund	900,000.00	
Dividends outstanding	4,235.50	
Exchange fluctuation account	148,233.97	
Sundry creditors	167,104.05	
Profit and loss account	476,862.64	
	<u>\$2,296,486.16</u>	

WORKING ACCOUNT.

	\$	c.
To losses	694,800.03	
To charges, survey fees, &c.	256,214.62	
To directors' and auditors' fees at head office and branches	22,522.50	
To profit and loss account	476,862.64	
	<u>\$1,449,899.84</u>	

By premia, less re-insurances, return premia and commissions	1,150,004.06
By interest	97,171.16
By transfer fees	168.67
By amount brought forward from last year	202,555.95
	<u>\$1,449,899.84</u>

RESERVE FUND.

To balance on 31st August, 1899	900,000.00
	<u>\$900,000.00</u>
By balance on 31st August, 1899	900,000.00
	<u>\$900,000.00</u>

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the Nineteenth Ordinary General Meeting, to be held at the offices of the General Agents, on Saturday, the 13th October, at noon:—

The General Agents and Consulting Committee beg to submit to the shareholders the final accounts for the year 1899 and an estimate of the present year's working to the 30th ultimo.

1899 ACCOUNT.

The result of the year's working is a credit balance of \$182,053.70, out of which and with the approval of the shareholders it is proposed to pay a dividend of 24 per cent. (= \$12 per Share) to shareholders, the balance \$62,053.70 to be carried to the current year's account.

1900 ACCOUNT.

This account shows an estimated balance at credit of \$597,492.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Owing to the lamented death of Mr. H. L. Dalrymple, who had been a member of the Consulting Committee for 27 years, and the resignation of Mr. E. Shellim, Messrs. J. H. Lewis and D. M. Moses were invited to and accepted the seats rendered vacant. These appointments require the confirmation of shareholders. The Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Messrs. D. Gillies, F. Maitland, J. H. Lewis and D. M. Moses retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Fullarton Henderson and W. H. Potts, whose re-election is recommended.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,

General Agents,

Canton Insurance Office, Limited.

Hongkong 1st October, 1900.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1899.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital subscribed	\$2,500,000.00		
Amount paid-up	500,000.00		
Reserve fund	1,150,000.00		
Outstanding dividends	4,154.00		
Outstanding bonus	807.35		
Accounts payable	49,722.50		
Balance of working account, 1899	182,053.70		
	<u>\$1,896,837.55</u>		

ASSETS.	\$ c.
Cash, on current account with Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	12,362.83
Fixed deposits:—	
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	100,000.00
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	50,000.00
Mercantile Bank of India, Limited	50,000.00
Bank of China and Japan, Limited	25,000.00
Mortgages	837,545.19
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, debentures	94,000.00
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, debentures	63,864.57
Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Limited, debentures	60,000.00
Chinese Imperial Government loan, 1836	59,534.03
United States bonds (4 per cent. loan, 1925)	450,000.00
Interest accrued but not yet payable	29,530.93

\$1,886,837.55

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1899.	\$ c.
To amount brought forward from last account	27,337.50
To net premia received, less returns and reinsurances	1,259,323.00
To exchange	11,619.67
To interest	106,114.61
To transfer fees	34.00

\$1,404,483.78

	\$ c.
By losses and claims paid	1,016,462.81
By charges, including directors', auditors' and survey fees, agents' expenses, &c.	94,177.56
By commissions	111,789.71
By balance as above	182,053.70

\$1,404,483.78

ESTIMATE OF WORKING ACCOUNT TO THE 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1900.

Dr.	\$ c.
To premia, less re-insurances	1,105,000.00
To interest, received and accrued	82,000.00
To exchange	435.00
To transfer fees	7.00

\$1,187,492.00

Cr.	\$ c.
By losses paid and outstanding	425,000.00
By charges paid and accrued	72,000.00
By commissions paid and accrued	93,000.00
By balance	597,492.00

\$1,187,492.00

JELEBU MINING AND TRADING CO., LTD.

The following is the Directors' report:—

Your Directors now submit a statement of the Company's Accounts for the period from 31st January, 1900, to 25th July, 1900, being the first half year of the twelfth year of the Company's existence by the Chinese Calendar.

ALLUVIAL.

This Account shows a nett profit of \$6,776.85, which, although smaller than the previous half year, cannot be considered unsatisfactory in view of the wide fluctuations in the price of tin during the period under review. Advances to miners show a considerably reduced figure as compared with the previous half year, and the manager reports the advances to be safe.

RIN LODGE.

This account as will be seen closes after transfer of the above sum of \$6,776.85 with a debit balance of \$16,979.67. It must be borne in mind, however, that the Rin Lodge is still in its initial stage. The directors considered it advisable to put all expenditure on the working account, whereas some items might properly have been booked on development account. If this course had been followed the result of the working account would, of course, have been correspondingly more favourable. Besides it was deemed advisable, although the machinery is comparatively new, to follow the policy of writing off a substantial amount for depreciation. It will be satisfactory to note that the additional 10 head of stamps have arrived from Australia, and are now at the mines in course of erection. The directors think they cannot do better than to give at foot extracts from reports from the General Manager and the Mining Manager showing the position of affairs generally. As soon as the battery is in full working order, the directors contemplate publishing results monthly.

Crushing has proceeded as follows:—

April	stone crushed	286 tons.
May	do.	322 "
June	do.	350 "
July	do.	300 "
August	do.	320 "

Total quantity of stone crushed 1,578 tons, producing 194 tons of tin ore.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. Arnot Reid resigned owing to his departure for Europe, and Mr. L. Huttenbach took the seat thereby vacated.

Mr. D. P. MacDougall retires by rotation, and, being eligible, offers himself for re-election. The Auditor, Mr. A. J. Gunn, retires from office, and offers himself for re-election.

J. P. JOAQUIM, D. P. MACDOUGALL,
Directors.
HUTTENBACH BROS., & Co.,
General Agents.

EXTRACT FROM GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT OF 20TH AUGUST.

To-day I went over most of our workings with the Mine Manager, and I am quite of his opinion that when we get the other 10 head of stamps erected, we shall have no difficulty in making the mine pay. The working expenses will be very little more, as our present European staff is sufficient, and it only means extra coolie labour. As yet very little is known about the Glamie Lode; the prospects are extremely good. To-day the lode is 3 feet thick, and the tin-dresser in my presence "vanned" out several samples from the face of the reef.

He says it is a much better quality ore than he had dressed for some months back.

In addition to our present and Glamie lodes there are others that we have not yet touched, and only want developing.

We have had to do a lot of dead work during the last four months, but things are now settling down, and with the erection of the new battery I look forward to a brighter future.

(Signed) JOHN GARDNER,
General Manager.

COPY OF TELEGRAM FROM JELEBU, DATED 28TH AUGUST, 1900.

Cut No. 4 lode near surface one foot thick; the prospects are encouraging.

COPY OF LETTER FROM THE MINING MANAGER TO THE GENERAL MANAGER, DATED 4TH SEPTEMBER.

As requested re the No. 4 lode my opinion is that in the Company's property there is a complete network of such lodes at surface, which may have one source at a depth. The No. 4 is now 1 2' thick going west, and going east it has come into about 4' after driving about 10 on it.

It is similar in formation to the Nos. 1, 2, and 3 lodes on the surface, and also to the Glamie Lode. As it is just at the base of a hill, I hope to be able to speak more definitely about the matter shortly, as I intend to work this lode before the wet season sets in, seeing the trouble there was owing to slips taking place last wet season.

(Signed) JOHN BURNS,
Acting Mining Manager.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge, with thanks, the following donation to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Fruit and Vegetable Guild	... \$50
Wan Shing Kat	... 5

Lau Ling is a coolie who lived at a house in Chater Street, Kennedytown, which is occupied by 20 or 30 other coolies. On the morning of the 26th September he pretended to be ill and unable to go to work. He accordingly stayed behind instead of accompanying the other coolies to their daily labour. The cook was the only other person in the house besides himself, and Lau Ling got rid of him by sending him for some medicine. During his absence Lau Ling thoroughly ransacked the house, ultimately decamping with property to the value of close upon \$300. On the robbery being discovered it was reported to the police, who made enquiries and found some of the stolen property in pawnshops at Aberdeen and elsewhere. The thief was arrested at Wanchai on Tuesday night with some of the stolen property in his possession. On the 3rd inst. Mr. Hazeland sentenced him to two months' hard labour.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.

The following is the forty-first report of the Yokohama Specie Bank, Limited, (Yokohama Shokin Ginko), presented to the shareholders at the half-yearly ordinary general meeting, held at the Head Office, Yokohama, on Monday, 10th September, 1900.

Gentlemen,—The directors submit to you the annexed statement of the liabilities and assets of the bank, and profit and loss account for the half-year ending June 30th, 1900.

The gross profits of the bank for the past half-year, including yen 349,501.113 brought forward from last accounts, amount to yen 6,243,618.683, of which yen 4,964,772.951 have been deducted for current expenses, interests, &c., leaving a balance of yen 1,278,845.732.

The directors now propose that yen 130,000.000 be added to the reserve fund, raising it to yen 8,130,000.000. From the remainder the directors recommend a dividend at the rate of thirteen per cent. per annum, which will absorb yen 780,000.000 on old shares and yen 205,150.680 on new shares, making a total of yen 985,150.680.

The balance, yen 163,695.052, will be carried forward to the credit of next account.

NAGATANE SOMA,
Chairman.

Head Office, Yokohama, 10th September, 1900.

BALANCE SHEET, 30TH JUNE, 1900.

LIABILITIES.	Y.
Capital paid up	18,000,000.000
Reserve fund	8,000,000.000
Reserve for doubtful debts	123,623.260
Reserve for new building	403,038.960
Deposits (current, fixed, etc.)	54,717,045.828
Bills payable, and other sums due by the bank	90,072,291.164
Dividends unclaimed	2,939.670
Amount brought forward from last account	349,501.113
Net profit for the past half-year	929,344.619
	Yen 172,597,784.614

ASSETS.	Y.
Cash account:—	
In hand	4,933,788.960
At bankers	4,694,743.790
Investments in public securities	25,025,224.060
Bills discounted, loans, advances, &c.	53,515,888.480
Bills receivable and other sums due to the bank	83,704,200.254
Bullion and foreign money	153,893.590
Bank premises, properties, furniture, &c.	570,045.480
	Yen 172,597,784.614

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.	Y.
To current expenses, interests, &c.	4,964,772.951
To reserve fund	130,000.000
To dividend yen 6.500 per share for 120,000 old shares=yen 780,000.00 ; and yen 1.709.589 per share for 120,000 new shares=yen 205,150.680	985,150.680
To balance carried forward to next account	163,695.052
	Yen 6,243,618.683
By balance brought forward 31st December, 1899	349,501.113
By amount of gross profits for the half-year ending 30th June, 1900	5,894,117.570
	Yen 6,243,618.683

HONGKONG POLO CLUB.

Mr. J. H. Lewis having kindly presented four cups to be played for in a Tournament, the following are the teams drawn by the Polo Committee:—

I.	II.
Mr. Baker	Mr. Geiger
Hon. F. H. May	Mr. Hill
Mr. Casserly	Mr. Melville
Capt. Loring	Capt. des Vœux
III.	IV.
Capt. the Hon. H. W. Trefusis	Mr. Taylor
Mr. Stockwell	Mr. Labertouche
Mr. Williams	Mr. Mulliken
Lt. Comdr. Wilkin	Major Kettlewell

Dates of play (4.15 P.M. each day) are:—

Des Vœux v. Wilkin on Friday, Oct. 5th.

Loring v. Kettlewell on Monday, Oct. 8th.

Final Match on Friday, Oct. 12th.

By kind permission of Lieut. Col. Baillie and Officers 22nd Bombay Infantry, the band of the Regiment will attend.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

SHOOTING COMPETITION BETWEEN THE DOCK
DETACHMENT AND THE "C" MACHINE
GUN COMPANY.

A challenge having been issued by the Dock Detachment of the Field Battery to the "C" Machine Gun Company for a shooting match 10 men a-side and accepted by the latter unit, the competition came off on the 30th ultimo, and after a close tussle, ended in a win for "C" Company by 12 points. The winners were 9 points behind at 200 yards but drew level and made a lead of 7 points at 400, afterwards adding 5 more at 500 yards. Refreshments were provided by the Dock team, to whom a vote of thanks was passed at the close by the winners. Aggregate and best individual scores are appended.—

	200 yds.	400 yds.	500 yds.	Total
"C" Machine Gun Company ...	263	239	225	777
Dock Detachment Field Battery ...	272	273	220	765

	200 yds.	400 yds.	500 yds.	Total
Sergt. Smillie ...	27	32	32	91
Gun. Shoolbred ...	29	34	28	91
Gun. H. Gidley ...	29	34	24	87
Bomb. Gloyd ...	27	26	26	79
Corpl. Sherwin ...	25	30	23	78

	200 yds.	400 yds.	500 yds.	Total
Dock Detachment, top scores:—				
Gun. Lapsley ...	31	33	31	95
Gun. Stewart ...	31	29	30	90
Gun. Baldwin ...	26	32	27	85
Gun. Rattey ...	29	28	26	83
Corpl. White ...	27	30	25	82

HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB.

SIX-A-SIDE COMPETITION.

Sufficient entries have been received to make up six teams, which have been drawn as under-neath.

The Competition will begin on Thursday or Friday as soon as the schedule of fixtures is arranged and will be proceeded with as rapidly as possible.

It has been decided that the last three selections in each team shall be available as substitutes and that, in obtaining a substitute, all the six selections must be exhausted before the fifth selections before the sixth selections.

Mr. Howard has kindly offered to present souvenirs to the winning six.

Mr. Lowe's Team:—Mr. Lowe, Mr. Russell, Mr. Stockwell, Mr. Cox, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Humphreys.

Mr. Kew's Team:—Mr. Kew, Mr. Williamson, Mr. Wild, Mr. Deacon, Mr. Hance, Mr. Watson, R.A.

Mr. Looker's Team:—Mr. Looker, Mr. Baker, 22nd B.L.I., Mr. Casserly, Mr. Melville, 22nd B.L.I., Mr. Stevens, R.E., Mr. Wall, R.A.

Mr. McMurtrie's Team:—Mr. McMurtrie, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Sheppard, Mr. Graham, R.A., Mr. Hays.

Mr. Noble's Team:—Mr. Noble, Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Yule, Mr. Beattie, Mr. Smith, Mr. Anderson.

Mr. Danby's Team:—Mr. Danby, Mr. Seth, Mr. Hay, Mr. H. S. Holmes, Mr. Haggard, Mr. Sandford.

FIXTURES.

Friday	October	5th Noble and Danby. Lowe and Kew.
Monday	"	8th Noble and McMurtrie. Danby and Kew.
Tuesday	"	9th Looker and Lowe.
Wednesday	"	10th Noble and Kew, Mc- Murtrie and Danby.
Thursday	"	11th Looker and Danby.
Friday	"	12th Lowe and McMurtrie.
Monday	"	15th McMurtrie and Kew. Lowe and Noble.
Tuesday	"	16th Looker and Kew.
Wednesday	"	17th Danby and Lowe.
Thursday	"	18th Looker and Noble.
Friday	"	19th
Tuesday	"	23rd Looker and McMur- trie.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE AQUATIC
SPORTS.

The Queen's College Bathing Club held its aquatic sports on Saturday last, 29th ult. which turned out very successfully. There were a fairly good number of entries, and the sports were witnessed by a large number of friends of the competitors, who were comfortably accommodated in the Victoria Recreation Club House, Kowloon, kindly placed at the disposal of the College Club by the Committee of the V. R. C.

It should also be added that the V. R. C. premises were tastily decorated by their popular steward Mr. C. Lesbirel, to whom the thanks of the Q. C. B. C. are due. The prizes will be distributed at the College Hall on Friday next. Appended is a list of the events, winners, &c:—

1. Four lengths, Championship of the College. Prizes presented by the *Yellow Dragon*. 1st, C. Humphreys, 2nd, F. Ellis.

2. Plunging, Open to all comers. 1st, F. K. Tata.

3. Two lengths, Full Clothing. 1st, F. Ellis, 2nd, J. Ellis.

4. Plunging, Open to present pupils. 1st, C. Humphreys 2nd, F. Ellis.

5. Swimming under water. Prize presented by Mr. F. D. Setna. 1st, E. Humphreys 77ft., 2nd, J. Ellis 75ft.

6. Two lengths, Open to all comers. 1st, N. A. Alves, 2nd, J. H. Witchell.

7. Two lengths, (Handicap.) 1st, F. Ellis owes 15 sec.; 2nd, C. Humphreys owes 14 sec.

8. Team Race.—1, F. Ellis (Capt.), 2, J. Ellis, 3, E. Humphreys, 4, E. Ellis, 5, Tsoi Chan Fan.

9. Two lengths, Open to every school. 1st, A. Rebeiro.

10. Championship. A special prize awarded to the winner of most points, by Mr. S. D. Setna. 1st, F. Ellis.

Hon. Treasurer, Mr. E. Ralphs; Hon. Secretary, Mr. K. Pestonji; Umpire, Mr. E. Ralphs; Starter, Mr. F. Ellis; Handicapper, Mr. R. Pestonji; Time-keeper, Mr. S. E. Ismail.

CONSULAR REPORT.

CANTON.

We noticed last month in these columns the report of the Imperial Maritime Customs on the trade of Canton for 1899. We have now before us Mr. Consul Scott's report for the same period. As Mr. Scott's statistics are necessarily taken from the Customs returns, it will not be necessary here to go into the exact figures again. It will be remembered that the year 1899 was the best on record—both in volume and in value of trade. "This is the more remarkable," says Mr. Scott, "as statements have appeared from sources that should be responsible and well informed that the West River and Inland Water Navigation Regulations are of such a nature as to prevent the expansion of trade, while the prevalence of 'piracy,' as it is somewhat exaggeratedly called, had practically put a stop to trade altogether. No doubt these statements have been made to some extent under the idea that exaggeration is necessary where change or reform is desired, but in this case it would seem that they have overshot their mark, so wide are the real facts from those predicted." The italics are ours, Mr. Scott's remarkable statement seeming to call for special notice. Events have decided in no uncertain fashion on the truth of the official and the lay presentations of the case.

Under the head of Inland Waters Navigation, Mr. Scott goes on to say: "In spite of many assertions to the contrary, the Inland Waters Navigation from Canton, in the only direction it seems probable it could be expected to do so, has proved a very considerable success." By this Mr. Scott means that the passenger traffic has very largely increased, as no doubt it has. In 1899 it had much more than doubled, the report points out. "The development of the passenger traffic has, I think, by no means reached its full extent. It is very profitable and launches are being registered almost daily. In this direction, therefore, the new regulations must, I think, be considered a very considerable success."

Apart, however, from the question of passenger traffic, what Mr. Scott has to say is this:—

"The difficulties and intricacies of the *lekin* system of taxation have been charged with pre-

venting these launches from carrying goods inland. But goods are carried inland and are brought to Canton for sale and export, and the vessels conveying them are subjected to all the disadvantages of the *lekin* as at present collected. Under the Inland Water Navigation Regulations, launches, it is laid down, when carrying goods shall be on the same footing as junks and native cargo boats. It would seem, therefore, that some other cause must in a large measure be responsible for the non-transference of the carrying trade to these launches or to boats towed by them. It seems probable that as, speaking generally, Chinese merchants are more or less indifferent to a day or so in the arrival of goods at their destination, it is found on these magnificent water-ways in which the tide ebbs and flows, that it is far cheaper, and, on the whole, more convenient to send goods inland and bring them to Canton in native-built boats with the assistance of the tides and winds, than to employ steam launches. There is no doubt, too, that the native boats being generally of shallower draft than the screw launches at present almost exclusively used, can penetrate further inland than the launches can without transshipment of the goods. In time a partial transference of the trade may, possibly, be looked for, but it seems probable that, for a long time to come, steam on the inland waters of this district will not supplant native boats propelled leisurely by sails, oars, poling, and the tides. This appears to be more probable, as in the case of the passenger traffic there has been no doubt or hesitation in the matter. Of the 178 launches registered in Canton, 28 only were registered in the names of foreigners. Of these eighteen were British, five German, four American, and one French. It is probable that the genuine interests of British subjects in the above eighteen launches, with an exception or two, is extremely trifling, if indeed, any such interest really exists at all. In my opinion, it is improbable in a high degree that genuine-owned and managed British or foreign-owned launches will ever, under any circumstances, be able to compete with Chinese launches in the inland water traffic either in passengers or goods, simply, if for no other reason, on the score of expense."

But Mr. Scott thinks desirable a modification of the Regulations whereby all launches and steamers registered for the inland waters at Canton, Samshui, or Wuchow, may be enabled to carry passengers and cargo to all ports and places on the inland waters and West River indifferently. "It should, however, be clearly pointed out that such modification would be a further privilege which is not contained in either the Inland Waters Navigation or West River Regulations as at present in force."

With regard to piracy and blackmailing, Mr. Scott is inclined to make merry over the alleged effect on British trade, and says that the returns of trade do not warrant the belief that the import of British goods has even been hindered or that goods for export have suffered. He continues:—"I hope I shall not be accused of minimising the state of things in this district. One robbery, one outrage only is one too many, but the whole matter has, in my opinion, been so grossly exaggerated and so false an impression has been created in the public mind at home and in China to judge by the public prints, that I have thought it right to point out the real facts of the case." He admits, however, that the mischief is deep seated, and the evils caused by years of mal-administration cannot be eradicated in a day.

In conclusion we quote the remarks with which Mr. Scott winds up his report:—

"Matters do not move rapidly in Canton, but there are signs of progress in the air. It is true that nothing has practically been done with respect to the projected railways from Hankow to Canton and from Hongkong to Canton; both projects I should say are unlikely to be carried through for some years; both involve a very large expenditure, the return on which for many years is doubtful. But there is a Chinese scheme which has, it is said, received official countenance, if not sanctioned, for embanking the river front of the city from Shameen downwards, a very fine and useful work if it is only carried out by its Chinese projectors. A scheme for supplying water to Canton has also been laid before the Viceroy. The use of electricity for lighting the streets is increasing and the

same company as is supplying electricity has laid down mains in various directions from fixed pumping stations for fire-extinguishing. Various other schemes, some practical, some chimerical, are mooted, but all showing a desire to increase the amenities of life among the natives of Canton. Meanwhile the British and French Concessions on Shameen are becoming too small for the foreign mercantile community, which is growing year by year. Very little space is left on the British portion and not much more on the French part of Shameen. It seems inevitable that a fresh concession, either cosmopolitan or under the jurisdiction of one particular nation will have to be found somewhere, but where, is the question. It is a problem that will probably prove difficult of solution."

SOME STRAITS SETTLEMENTS FIGURES.

The revenue of the Colony for 1899 was \$5,199,149, corrected for arrears, against \$5,029,689, the revenue for 1898. The outlay was \$5,063,884, against \$4,582,951 in 1898.

The revenue from opium licences amounted to \$2,318,400; that from spirit licences reached \$757,200.

The Government profit on silver and copper coin issued in the Colony last year came to over \$58,000.

Subsidiary silver coin to the value of \$63,600 was imported during last year, as against \$572,000 in 1898. A considerable quantity of this coin finds its way to Netherlands India.

The military expenditure of the Colony for 1899 was over \$969,250.—contribution \$917,773 and balance of contribution for 1898, \$51,479. The contribution for 1899 was estimated at 17½ per cent. of the revenue of the Colony, plus cost of military works, but it was afterwards fixed at 20 per cent. of the revenue, this amount to cover all the liabilities of the Colony.

The expenditure under the Volunteer's Ordinance was over \$14,216. The outlay on the Penang Volunteer Corps was over \$2,690. The Crown Agents accounted for \$3,102. The outlay in Singapore came to \$8,424.

A RUSSIAN ACCOUNT OF TAKU.

The St. Petersburg Government Messenger published on the 2nd ult. four long detailed reports on the capture of the Taku forts, according to which it would appear that success was entirely due to the Russians and English who, in spite of the disinclination of the other allies to storm the forts, were the first to advance and decide the day. Captain Dobrovolsky commanding the international landing parties, states that the allied commanders disagreed on the subject, whereupon the Russians refused to wait and at once went forward. They were supported by the English, who thus induced the rest of the allies to follow their example. The Russian Lieutenant Stankevich with four soldiers, first entered the north-west fort, and, not having with him a flag, he hoisted a shoulder strap of one of his sergeants. When the English flag subsequently appeared on the ramparts the Russians cheered, and from their new position began firing upon the nearest southern forts.

Lieutenant Stankevich relates that on the night before the attack he attended a conference at the invitation of the German Captain Pohl, who, in the presence of the other foreign officers, declared that it had been decided to retire as the naval artillery fire had done no damage whatever to the forts, the capture of which was, therefore, impossible. Lieutenant Stankevich categorically refused to retire, and then all the other landing parties excepting the English formed their columns and marched away. The Russians occupied the moat in front of the fort, and the English threw out a line to the Russian right. At dawn the Russians and English, under the enemy's fire, stormed the fort, and the Germans and Japanese followed up behind.

The Singapore Chess Club has been reviewed after a lapse of nearly five months. Mr. T. B. Eloum was elected President. A match by cable with either Hongkong or Batavia was suggested. We hope that the Hongkong players will respond to this invitation.

RUSSIAN FORCES IN THE AMUR DISTRICT.

Anent the paragraphs which have appeared in these columns regarding the Russian purchases of foreign steamers for the conveyance of troops and military stores from Europe to the Far East, and the contemplated transport of 10,500 Russian soldiers to China, some details as to the composition of the Russian forces now in the Amur district, may be of some interest at the present time. The district is of wide extent, and administratively includes not only the Amur provinces, but the littoral district of Vladivostok, Saghalien, and the Transbaikai. Independent of the forces now travelling eastwards through Siberia, or ocean-borne from Odessa by transport, the Russian troops already stationed in the Amur Region include three East Siberian brigades (12 battalions) a division of artillery (4 batteries) the East Siberian light infantry (*tirailleurs*), two brigades of infantry of the line (9 battalions) two brigades of cavalry of the Ussuri division (4 regiments), two East Siberia artillery brigades and two mobile artillery parks, according to figures taken by the *Singapore Free Press* from the columns of a French contemporary.

The troops not brigaded include four battalions of the line, two batteries of the Transbaikai, a battalion of East Siberia engineers, a railway battalion, four regiments of cavalry, the Cosacks of the Amur and of the Ussuri, a regiment of fortress infantry, (5 battalions), six companies of garrison artillery, three of miners, one of the sappers, and a telegraph section. The aggregate of these mobilised troops represents 30 battalions of infantry, 56 squadrons of cavalry, 17 batteries, besides special troops, amounting in all to 50,000 men, placed under the orders of Lieut. Gen. Grodkov, Governor-General of the Amur district. The despatch of troops from Sebastopol and Odessa by Volunteer Fleet transports for China includes up to the present six brigades of chasseurs, formed out of contingents drawn from the Russian Army Corps of the South, two battalions of infantry up to the war strength, eighteen batteries of field artillery, a battalion of pioneers, a battalion of field transport, and a field bakery.

A TRANS-PACIFIC SHIPOWNER'S COMBINE.

INCREASED FREIGHT RATES.

A conference is taking place between the principal shipping companies whose steamers ply in Far Eastern waters—namely, the Canadian Pacific, the various San Franciscan Companies, the M. M. S. S. Company, the P. and O. S. S. Company, the North German Lloyd, the Nippon Yusen, &c.—with the object, states the *Japan Mail*, of raising the rates of freight between Japan and America. It is expected that the conference will result in an agreement to make an increase of 10 per cent. all round. These Companies have already agreed to the following charges for 1st class passengers between China ports and Japan, and the new rates went into operation from the 15th ult.

	Single.	Return.
	yen.	yen.
Hongkong-Shanghai	50	75
Hongkong-Nagasaki	56	84
Hongkong-Moji	60	90
Hongkong-Kobe	65	95
Hongkong-Yokohama	75	113

The doubts which had arisen at the Admiralty with regard to the utility of using Marconi's system of wireless telegraphy on British warships seem now to be dispelled, and thirty-two sets are being turned out as rapidly as possible, the royalty on each instrument being £100 per annum for fifteen years. At the recent Naval manœuvres the instruments were a pronounced success. "It is not too much to say," Signor Marconi's representative said, "that messages can now be transmitted and received over distances of 100 miles." There is no chance of a foreign vessel "tapping" the messages, for they are sent in code, while, as a second precaution, messages cannot be received unless the two instruments are in "tune" or, in other words, are in sympathy with one another. This arrangement is, of course, a secret of the Admiralty.

TERRIBLE ENDING OF A VILLAGE FESTIVAL.

From Araki-mura, Nitsuna-gori, Fukuoka Prefecture, comes a terrible story, which is thus related by the *Japan Mail*. It appears that the farmers of the neighbourhood, rejoicing in the promise of rich and heavy crops this autumn, decided to celebrate the event by holding a village *shibaya* (amateur theatricals) in the grounds of the Kurotsuchi Shrine. The young men of the village readily took up the idea and were impressed for service on the boards. Beginning at an early hour, the theatricals continued all day, and at nightfall fully 1,000 persons were still enjoying the antics of the village buffoons and the tragedians. Lights were accordingly sent for, and a tin of kerosene oil being forthcoming to replenish them, was placed upon the stage. Then some one thoughtlessly placed a light upon the tin, which, communicating with the oil, caused an explosion. Losing his presence of mind, a man on the stage picked up the blazing tin and threw it into the temple yard, among the spectators where it caused a panic, in the course of which some 80 persons were killed or injured. The theatrical performance and the harvest rejoicings, needless to say, came to a sudden end.

EXTENSIVE OPIUM SMUGGLING AT RANGOON.

The Collector of Customs, Rangoon, on the 11th Sept. sent a consignment of silk, which arrived from the Straits per steamer *Palitana*, to be sold by Messrs. Balthazar and Son, public auctioneers. Mr. Rozario, their auctioneer, on examining the packing, discovered four tins of Chinese opium and immediately reported the matter personally to the Collector of Customs, who sent Customs Officer Holsted to stand by while further search was made. Nine more tins were found similarly secreted giving a total valued at Rs. 2,400. The fact that the opium escaped detection by the Customs Department after they had detected forty-two thousand total in the very same consignment on board the *Palitana* and had the cases under their care for over one week, has created great surprise and will probably incur severe censure for such dereliction of duty.

HONGKONG.

The plague record since last week's issue is 4 cases and 4 deaths, the totals for the year being now 1,071 and 1,013.

For some time past the coolies down Queen's Road Central have been in the habit of amusing themselves by throwing stones in the Land We Live In Hotel. Li Ki, a shop coolie, who offended in this manner on the 27th ult., was caught by the bar-keeper and on the 28th ult. fined \$5 or 14 days.

On the 4th instant Sergeant Garrod was in Wing Lok Street when he saw a man carrying a bundle. Suspecting that the bundle contained letters he examined it and found his suspicions verified. There were about 71 letters, some of which were addressed to Hongkong. They were all unstamped. A fine of \$50 was imposed.

P. C. Morgan found a Chinaman trespassing in the Naval Yard at Kowloon on Wednesday and arrested him. The man had no right to be where he was. The defendant told Mr. Hazeland on the 4th inst. that he was carrying coal. His Worship, however, said he was quite satisfied that the man went where he did for the purpose of stealing something, and imposed a fine of \$10, or three weeks.

As P. C. Allen was passing the Hongkong Hotel at about 6.40 on the 4th instant he was called into the billiard room. There he saw a European (whose name he subsequently discovered to be Alfred Barber) who was drunk and noisy and using insulting language to the boys behind the bar. He was taken into custody. When brought before Mr. Hazeland and asked if he had anything to say, he replied, "If you would allow me to go I should be much obliged. It's a matter of life and death to me." Since he put it that way His Worship allowed him to go with a caution.

The two lunkongs charged with assaulting a Chinaman at Wanchai were again brought re-at the Magistracy on the 28th ult. and further remanded, the complainant being still unable to appear.

The *Chun Fat* ferry launch, which runs from Hongkong to Yaumati, was found to be overcrowded the other night, there being 25 passengers in excess of the number allowed. For this offence the master was on the 28th ult. fined \$50.

As a cargo boat laden with cargo was being towed towards the s.s. *Amigo* on the 28th ult. one of the ropes broke and the boat capsized. The crew—seven in number—and five coolies were thrown into the water, and a girl six years of age and a coolie were drowned.

On the 28th ult we received the following from the Chartered Bank:—We have on the 29th ult. received from our London Office the following telegram:—"At the approaching meeting of shareholders the Directors will recommend a dividend for the past half-year at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, free of Income Tax."

A cook named Lo Ng and a hawker named Chan Hop were busily engaged battering one another in Queen's road Central the other day when P. C. Brownfield appeared on the scene and took them both up to the Central Police Station. They were both scratched and bleeding about the face. On the 28th ult. Mr. Hazeland fined them each \$3, or 14 days, for committing a breach of the peace.

The private and public chair coolies at the Peak appear to be at daggers drawn just now. Several pitched battles have taken place between them recently, and some of them have been brought before Mr. Hazeland and bound over to keep the peace. On the 28th ult. two coolies in the employ of the Harbour Master were the means of six public chair coolies being bound over, the complainants alleging that the defendants were laid and assaulted them.

The Annual General Meeting of members of the Hongkong Hockey Club was held on the evening of the 28th ult. in the Cricket Club's Pavilion. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Mr. J. Barton; Hon. Sec. Mr. F. B. Deacon; Committee, Mr. H. Stroug, R.M.L.D., Capt. Bailey, R.A.M.C., Capt. Goodwin, R.A., Messrs. H. Pinckney, A. C. J. Stevens, R.G., and J. Hooper. The secretary referred to the non-punctuality in attending matches, and the crying off at the last minute from playing, which members indulged in last year, and said he hoped that it would not be the case in the approaching season.

A 200 yards' handicap has been arranged to take place for two prizes to-day, the 6th instant, at 4.30 p.m., at the Victoria Recreation Club's bathing place, Kowloon. The entries are limited and are by invitation. The following well-known swimmers will compete, and a most interesting race may be expected:—Messrs. A. A. Alves (200 yards champion of the colony), A. E. Alves (V. R. C. 100 yards champion), C. Gregory, R. W. F., H. E. Moon, W. A. Stopani, and N. H. Alves. A two lengths' handicap will also be brought off for those not invited to take part in the other race, and the proceedings will conclude with a water polo game.

The members of the Club Lusitano, which is regarded as the representative Club of the Portuguese community in Hongkong, celebrated the anniversary of the birthday of Their Faithful Majesties the King and Queen of Portugal on the 28th ult. by a dance in the Club premises at Shelley Street. As in former years the facade of the building was very gaily illuminated by gas and Japanese lanterns; in the centre right above the main entrance was placed a transparent portrait of Dom Carlos. The internal decorations were very simple, but tasteful and effective. It is rather early in the season for dancing to be pleasant, yet the heat did not deter the more ardent lovers of the terpsichorean art. Dancing was kept up with much spirit to the strains of the music provided by the excellent Band of the 22nd Bombay Infantry, which was present by the kind permission of the officers of that regiment. The Portuguese Consul-General, Senhor Conselheiro A. G. Romano, who is also the president of the Club, at the supper proposed the health of the King and Queen, which was enthusiastically received. Altogether a very pleasant evening was spent.

The *Gazette* announces that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to re-appoint the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., to be Vice-President of the Sanitary Board.

Company Sergeant-Major F. Smyth, "A" Machine Gun Co., Hongkong Volunteer Corps, has been appointed Lieutenant in place of Mr. F. Maitland, resigned.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum last week included 512 non-Chinese and 231 Chinese to the former, and 185 non-Chinese and 1,684 Chinese to the latter institution.

The following changes have taken place in the control of the Douglas Lapraik & Co.'s line of steamers:—Captain Robson, who has come out from England after a six months' leave of absence, has been appointed to take command of the S.S. *Thales*, and Captain Passmore goes as chief officer of the S.S. *Haitan*. Mr. Pritchard has been appointed second officer of the S.S. *Formosa*.

A pork butcher who has been several times convicted of selling fresh pork outside the markets was taken before Mr. Hazeland on the 29th ult. for again offending in this respect. He was fined \$25, or two months.

The chair coolies at the Peak have recently shown a disinclination to carry sun and rain blinds, and hence their customers have suffered. A number of them appeared at the Magistracy on the 28th ult. and were fined \$1 each.

John Acton, a gunner in the Royal Artillery, being slightly under the influence of drink on Saturday evening, went into a tailor's shop at 36, Hillier Street, picked up a Chinese jacket worth about 40 cents, and walked away with it. The shop-keeper followed him and the man was stopped by Lance-Sergeant Allen, who took him into custody. At the Magistracy on the 1st inst. he was sentenced to 14 days' hard labour for stealing the jacket.

Bakers as a rule are not particularly pugnacious, but Leung Sze seems to be an exception to the rule. Ko Fu is a scavenging coolie. On the 4th inst. he told Mr. Hazeland that at about seven o'clock that morning he was in Queen's Road Central, near the Central Market, at work. Seeing the defendant throwing rubbish into his cart he told him not to do so, whereupon the defendant and several others rushed at and assaulted him.—P.C. Ho Lo Wo said he saw the defendant strike the complainant on the face with his fist. He went up to them and the defendant pushed him on to the ground. The complainant then got hold of the defendant, who was taken to the Police Station.—For assaulting the complainant a fine of \$10, or 14 days, was imposed, and a similar fine was imposed for the assault on the constable.

Seven men from a junk appeared before Mr. Hazeland on the 4th inst., and were charged with assaulting a Chinese detective when in the execution of his duty, and also with rescuing a prisoner who was in the officer's custody. The constable said that at about eight o'clock on Wednesday night he went to Mongkok sui for the purpose of arresting a deportee whom he knew by sight. He went on board a Chinese junk and descended into the hold, where he saw the deportee, Ho Foo. He brought him on deck, but the first and second defendants would not let him take him away. Someone caught hold of his queue and he was pressed down on to the deck. The first defendant struck him across the shoulder with an axe, making a wound three and a half inches long. The third defendant caught hold of his queue and struck him across the fingers with a chopper. He also cut the queue of the deportee, who jumped into the water and swam away. He had also a gash across his right cheek, but he could not tell who struck the blow, as it was done while he was pressed down upon the deck. He blew his whistle and the police came. All the defendants ran away with the exception of the first and second. He could recognise all the defendants. He had frequently been on board their boat.—Sergeant U Po deposed to going on board the junk early that morning and arresting the third, second, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh defendants. For the first offence his Worship sentenced the first and third defendants to four months' hard labour, and the rest to one month's hard labour. For the second offence he sentenced the whole of the defendants to two months' hard labour, the sentences to be consecutive.

For neglecting to hoist a red flag in the proper place on board a junk laden with kerosine Wong Lau was fined \$5. It was shown by Mr. Brutton that the defendant, for whom he appeared, was not altogether to blame. Hence the light fine.

We are requested to announce that the Cricket Ground will be open for cricket and teams on 1st October next to duly elected members and naval subscribers only; and that the usual opening match of First XII versus All Comers will be played on Saturday, 6th October, beginning at 11 a.m.

We are informed by Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, General Managers of Oliver's Freehold Mines, Limited, that they have received a telegram from the mines, giving the result of last month's crushings as follows:—"495 tons of quartz crushed for a yield of 287 ounces reported gold; mill ran 26 days."

On the 28th ult. a Chinaman who was about to get on board the launch for Kong Mun was stopped and searched. He was found to have a revolver, a dagger, and 50 rounds of ammunition on his person. He told Mr. Hazeland on the 29th ult. that he was an ex-rickshaw coolie, but had sold his rickshaw and was returning home. He was fined \$50, or two months.

Chinese constable 427 on the 1st inst. charged two Chinamen with assaulting him while in the execution of his duty. He said he was near the Ho Shing Theatre with one of the defendants in his custody when three men set upon him and knocked him down. The second defendant pressed him down and struck him. P. C. 356 came to his assistance. The defendants were each fined \$15, or a month.

A Kowloon City merchant named Ng Tso appeared at the Magistracy on the 1st inst. charged with assaulting an Indian surveyor in the employ of the Government. The complainant said that he and another man were surveying when a woman came by carrying two baskets. He was holding up a pole at the time, and his companion was looking through a glass. He told the woman to wait, whereupon the defendant came up and struck him two blows with a stick. The complainant denied kicking the woman's baskets. A fine of \$15 was imposed.

That the policeman's lot is not always a happy one is due to a great extent to the inconsiderateness of the public. As regards thoughtfulness there is nothing to choose between the public at home and the public in Hongkong, as the following story will show. The other day a message arrived at a Police Station at the Peak asking that a constable might be sent down to a certain address at once. The message was sent by a lady, and as the Inspector before whom it was placed is not only one of the most conscientious men in the force as regards the performance of his duty, but is also one of the most chivalrous, he jumped up from his tiffin and himself hurried down to the address given, taking with him a Chinese constable. He rang the bell but got no response, and he had to pull the handle close upon ten minutes before a servant came leisurely to the door, closely followed by an amah and a house coolie. The Inspector asked the boy where his mistress was, and as the boy made no reply but looked about in a wondering manner he instructed the Chinese constable to accompany the boy round to the back of the premises and make enquiries. They went, and in a few minutes returned laughing. On the Inspector asking them what was the matter he was informed that the other amah was sick, and as she declined to take some foreign medicine offered to her by her mistress the latter had threatened to send for the police to force her to take it. "And is that all they want me for?" asked the astonished officer. "Yes, that is all," was the reply. During this conversation a note from the mistress was handed to the inspector, the note saying, "Sorry cannot see you myself. Wait till my husband returns and he will come to the station." The Inspector would have been something more than human had he not returned to his office in anything but an amiable mood. On Sunday he received another note from the lady. It asked him whether the mail had been signalled or not, and to write the reply on the back of the note. A police-inspector's duties are multifarious, but they do not include keeping the public informed as to the mails. The Inspector, however, answered the enquiry, writing "Not yet," at the back of the note as directed.

Among the arrivals from Shanghai on the 2nd inst. by the *Empress of China* was Sir Thomas Jackson, whom all his friends are glad to see back in Hongkong once more after his holiday, and ready to return to his many labours.

We understand that the summons against Mr. Houston, of the firm of contractors who have in hand the extension of the Naval Yard, has been withdrawn. It had been taken out in consequence of the noise caused by the pile-driving.

Enquiries have disclosed the fact that the fire at Mongkoktsui on the 28th ult. originated at No. 16 matched. The cook had put a large quantity of shavings on the fire and the sparks ignited the roof. None of the property was insured. The damage is estimated at about \$30,000 and is divided between 22 owners.

The new double-ended ferry launch *Northern Star*, built by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company to the order of the Star Ferry Company for their Hongkong-Kowloon service, ran her official trial on the 1st inst. with much success and greatly to the satisfaction of all concerned. Everything worked without a hitch of any kind, and a speed of over 10 knots was attained with no difficulty. The *Northern Star*, which is the first of two new boats ordered from the Dock Company, will immediately be put on the Kowloon run, and will shortly be followed by the *Southern Star*. The two new launches are of similar type to the two double-enders that are now familiar objects in the harbour and which have been running on the Kowloon line with so much success, but show improvements in many points of detail which will render them still better adapted to the requirements of the service and the comfort of passengers.

As the result of a clan fight which took place at Hok Un, near Hungghom, on the 1st inst., a Chinaman lies in a precarious condition at the Hospital, and five men are awaiting their trial at the Magistracy. They were taken before Mr. Hazeland on the 1st inst. and remanded for a week. It appears that a gang of 16 Hakkas were engaged in carrying stones from a quarry when they were set upon by some 50 or 60 Chin Chews. A battle royal took place between the parties. Stones were thrown, sticks were used, and not a few knives were drawn. While the fight was in progress information was conveyed to the Hungghom Police Station, and P. C. Devney and some Indian constables hurried to the quarry. When they got there they found that all the rioters had cleared away with the exception of one man who was lying on the ground covered with blood. It was found that he had been stabbed in the back, a very deep wound having been inflicted. The man was sent to the Hospital, and subsequently five men were arrested by the police and charged with cutting and wounding.

At about eight o'clock on the 2nd inst. it is usual for many soldiers to be seen in the Central Market purchasing tit-bits for breakfast. Among those who paid the market a visit on the 2nd inst. were Privates John Cockburn and William Rutter, of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers who subsequently found themselves before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy, Cockburn being charged with stealing a fowl, the property of Lan Kon, of No. 82 stall, and Rutter with assault. The case against Cockburn was heard first. The complainant said that the defendant and two other soldiers came into the Market. The defendant opened his chicken coop, took out a chicken and proceeded to walk away with it. He followed and asked him for it back. He refused to give it up and struck him, as also did another man. The caretaker of stall No. 72 said it was not Cockburn who stole the fowl but Rutter, but that both of the men assaulted the complainant. The complainant's story was that he went to the Market to buy a fish for breakfast. He was looking through a shop window on his way back to Barracks when Market Inspector Cotton came and said he wanted him, and he went back with him. He never saw either the fowl or the complainant. When he was looking through the shop window two Artillery men rushed past him from the Market. Market Inspector Cotton said that he saw several soldiers in the Market that morning. In consequence of the contradictory evidence the defendant was discharged. The charge against Rutter was dismissed for a similar reason, his Worship remarking that though the evidence was suspicious it was not satisfactory.

Apart from plague, there were reported three cases of communicable disease in the Colony last week, all of enteric fever in the City of Victoria. Two of the cases ended fatally. No other disease was reported.

The A. D. C. rehearsals for the forthcoming performances of *Our Flat* will soon be in full swing, and the parts are already distributed. We understand that the very important matter of the ladies' costumes has received full consideration. This amusing farce should prove a great success.

Indian Constable 755 brought a charge of attempted bribery against a Chinese excise officer on the 29th ult. He declared that he was going to Aplichau the previous night when he met the defendant, who offered him 20 cents, saying "Don't arrest him; it's a small matter," referring to a man said to be in possession of opium without a permit. The evidence not being satisfactory Mr. Hazeland discharged the defendant.

A fire occurred on the 29th ult. in a small-matched next to Mr. Nowrojee's garden. Tsimsatsui, and the flames fanned by the strong wind that was prevailing at the time set fire to another, a larger matched next to it, used by the "Thirty" Tennis Club. Both structures were reduced to ashes in a very short time. The larger matched contained many tennis rackets and gear, furniture and wines belonging to the Club. The fire was, we understand, due to the carelessness of some of the gardeners cooking their morning meal.

At about a quarter to 12 on the 28th ult. the attention of an Indian constable was drawn to a Chinaman near the Canton Wharf in Praya West. The man was bleeding from a deep wound in the skull. He was still alive and he was sent in an ambulance to the Tung Wah Hospital. He, however, expired on the way. At first the police thought that this was a case of murder and investigations were at once set on foot. They discovered that there had been no foul play, but that while gazing across at the fire at Mongkoktsui he was struck on the head by a plank blown down from a scaffolding.

A march-out in connection with the Hongkong Volunteer Corps took place on the 28th ult. About 130 men paraded at Headquarters and proceeded to the Polo Ground at Causeway Bay with the guns for battery drill. On their return the Commandant (Lieut.-Col. Sir John Carrington, C. M. G.) addressed a few words to them. He regretted that the attendance had not been greater, and reminded them that the regular drill season would commence on the following Monday and urged all, particularly the recruits, to attend as many drills as possible during the next month so as to make themselves as efficient as possible before camp.

Generally speaking for some reason or other the Chinese have an especial antipathy to the Indian soldier, and since the invasion of Kowloon by troops from our great dependency this antipathy has led to frequent disturbances. There was something of a "shine" a few days ago, and as the result an engineer's apprentice named Ng Ping Cheng appeared before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy on the 3rd inst. charged with assaulting Chater Singh, a private in the Hyderabad contingent, and also with assaulting Indian constable 586. The complainant said that some five or six days ago, about 6.30 p.m., he was passing along the street returning with some tobacco, and as he was walking along two stones were thrown at him and hit him. He turned round and saw the defendant throw a brick at him. The brick hit him on the head. He had been in hospital five days and had not yet been discharged. The Indian constable said he was in Station Road, Yaumati, when he saw a disturbance there. A large crowd of Chinese were assembled. He saw the complainant come out of a shop and also saw the defendant throw a brick which hit the complainant on the head. He ran after him and caught him. In giving evidence in the second case the constable said that on his arresting him the defendant took up a stool and attempted to strike him with it. He warded off the blow with his rifle and took the defendant to the Police Station. His Worship observed that these cases of assault upon Indians at Kowloon had been very frequent of late. They must be put down with a strong hand. The defendant would be sentenced to three months' hard labour for each offence.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Field Marshal von Waldersee's flag for the campaign in China is a Uhlan's flag, divided into four squares, two black and two white, with a red border, and a bar running transversely across the design. The flag is attached to a Uhlan's lance.

The Japanese are truly making rapid strides in their march towards Western culture. The latest innovation is the formation of commercial schools for the training of female clerks, and one of the largest railway companies in Nippon has intimated that after a certain date women only will be employed in the clerical department.

Sir Pertab Singh, who is in command of the Jodhpore Lancers up North, and his polo team are said to have instituted a Cup for "first spear" in a Chinaman, and Sir Pertab is, we understand, bent upon winning it. He says that young men can win other cups after pigs, at polo, racing and otherwise, so that he, the veteran, ought to be allowed to win the Celestial Pig Cup.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* of the 22nd ult. says:—British Merchants, Bankers and leading residents generally of Tientsin have this week forwarded a telegram to the Premiers of Ottawa, Sydney, and Melbourne to the following effect:—"The British in North China and Manchuria beg Colonial help for the suppression of the Empress and for the strongest action on the part of the Home Government to safeguard interests."

At a meeting of the Shanghai Municipal Council on the 13th ult., the report of which has just been published, there was read a letter from Mr. H. O'Shea, making certain charges against the manager of the lottery known as "Tattersall's." With it was submitted a statement by the official auditor to the effect that the inaccuracies pointed out were due to a mistake and expressing regret therefore. The Council did not regard the charges as affording ground for action to be taken on behalf of the public.

The *Japan Mail* is informed that it is incorrect to say that a conference of steamship companies recently decided to raise freight rates in Far Eastern waters. An increase of freight rates to America and beyond was fixed some time ago at the San Francisco Conference. What has now happened is that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has just been admitted to the "interchangeable-ticket" scheme between Yokohama, ports of call and Hongkong, and an erroneous inference was drawn to the effect that a general change had taken place.

On the 17th ult., says the *Japan Herald*, a party of distinguished Americans (the American Minister, his wife, two naval officers and others) attended the religious rites of the Ontake Jinsha, a powerful sect of Shintoists. A heap of burning charcoal was placed in a furnace as large as two *tsubo*. The officiating priest read a service over the fire, after which the foreign visitors, to the number of seven, including ladies, took off their shoes and walked over the fire, their naked feet showing no sign of scorching. The performance called forth, says the report, enthusiastic approval of the spectators. This is certainly a novelty in the way of ambassadorial conduct.

A Japanese police prosecution against a Mr. Ferrari for using what was alleged to be objectionable language towards the local "guardians of the peace" has caused some amount of interest in Nagasaki. The language referred to in the charge was that of calling the police "fools" prefaced by a strong adjective, and that amounted, it was alleged, to an insult. The defence was that if such language was used, the words were uttered under "great provocation" and brought about "by the unwarrantable interference of the police." Mr. Ferrari was said to have been subjected to great brutality, and on the charge being investigated by the local court it was dismissed. The Public Prosecutor appealed, and a fresh trial was ordered, when the judge found that Mr. Ferrari had "committed a grave offence by calling the policemen fools," and sentenced him to a month's imprisonment and a fine of 15 yen. Three days were given in which to appeal. It is understood that Mr. Ferrari will do so, and, if necessary, carry the case to the highest tribunal at Tokyo.

It may not be generally known that during the last few years Natal has developed into a tea-producing country, states the *Westminster Gazette*, and in 1898 the output amounted to over 1,000,000lb., of which one estate, belonging to the Hon. J. L. Hulett, M.L.A. for Victoria Country, produced more than one half.

We are informed by the Agents of the China Mutual S. N. Co., Ltd., that the steamer *Yangtze*, outward bound, has broken her shaft during the passage across the Indian Ocean, but is reported to be safely anchored at Great Nicobar Island. Arrangements are now being made for the towage of the vessel from there to the Straits.

On the 26th ult. at Singapore the Pollard Opera Co. gave a successful performance of *The Belle of New York*, the juvenile exponents of the parts meeting with an excellent reception. It will be remembered that the Company was said to be coming on here after leaving Singapore, but it now appears that they are going to Penang, Rangoon and Calcutta.

The Tokyo Metropolitan Police Office is prosecuting the *Mainichi Shinbun* on account of its criticism of the conduct of the Asakusa police in connection with the social question.

Anxiety is felt, the *N.-C. Daily News* reports, as to the fate of H.E. Tuan Fang, the Manchurian Acting Governor of Shensi, to whose kindness some eighty missionaries owe their lives, and who, it is reported, has been removed from office. This report, however, is at present without foundation.

Sooner than was perhaps anticipated, says the *Engineer*, the carrying capacity of the Siberian Railway has been put to the test, and its weakness became at once apparent, for it proved to be unequal to the task of conveying large bodies of troops. Breakdowns of every kind are very frequent throughout its entire length, and the initial faultiness of its construction becomes more and more manifest.

Another book from the pen of Consul-General Wildman will be published shortly. The title is "China's Open Door," being a brief historical sketch of China and her people. The Consul-General has been at work on the sketch during the past year and concluded it just at the outbreak of the Boxer trouble. No other recent work on China is just what this book is—an historical sketch of the Empire and its people from earliest times to the present day. This gives the book a unique interest and an absolute value, for it is written from the standpoint of a modern American, who is not only in touch with China and its problem, but is an earnest advocate of China's progress towards that civilization which she is now seeking to retard. The book will contain an introduction by the Hon. Charles Denby, former U. S. Minister to China, and this will give an additional value to the sketch.

The trial trip of the second steamer which has been built for the Yangtze trade by S. C. Farnham & Co., of Shanghai, for the North German Lloyd Company, took place on the 23rd ult. She is named the *Mei Shun*, and over the measured mile achieved an average of 12 miles an hour. The *Mei Shun* is a twin screw steel vessel of the following dimensions:—238 feet between perpendiculars and 247 feet over all, 30 feet breadth moulded and 38 feet over guards, 12 feet 10 in. depth moulded. She is fitted with five water-tight bulkheads. Her engines are of the triple expansion surface condensing type, with cylinders of 11 feet, 18 feet, and 30ft. diameter, and a stroke of 31 feet, and steam is generated from two boilers working at 160 lbs. per square inch pressure. A steam steering gear is fitted amidships worked from the wheel-house forward. A combined windlass and high speed capstan, and a capstan aft are also driven by steam. She carries four boats and life-saving appliances, and has a similar appearance to the *Suitai* and *Suian*. The trial of the sister ship *Meilee* came off satisfactorily on the following day, and both vessels will soon begin trading on the Yangtze. A third vessel of similar design is fast approaching completion. The last, a stern-wheeler for the Hankow-Ichang trade, is about to be launched.

The Japanese battleship *Asahi*, which has just made a capital run out from the *Clyde*, where she was built, is said to have the distinction of being the heaviest battleship afloat, having a displacement of 15,200 tons—200 tons above that of the heaviest British warships—the new vessels of the *Formidable* class. Shortly after

she was launched she went ashore at Southsea, but was safely refloated from what was apparently a dangerous position. Since then she underwent her steam trials and finally left Portsmouth on the 31st July, and had an uneventful voyage. Off Socotra very heavy seas were encountered which, however, had no effect on the vessel. Coming through the Suez Canal much care had to be exercised, seeing that she has a draught of nearly 28 feet, but she was considerably lightened by burning up almost all the coal, and carrying only just sufficient to make the passage of the Canal. The *Asahi* with her great weight and formidable ram, the more so as the stem, strongly supported, is arranged as a powerful spur and is well adapted for this purpose. With the experience gained in the China-Japan war, against having inflammable material on board, the *Asahi* has been built almost entirely of steel, and very little wood is used even on the decks. She is fully protected with belts of Harvey steel of varying thickness, great care being exercised in the disposal of the protective material; and it might be mentioned that the main belt, 9 in. thick, extends for a length of 250 ft. amidships, the lower edge of the armour being 5 ft. 6 in. below water, and the upper edge 2 ft. 8 in. above water. Other parts of the sides are covered with 6 in. thick armour, while the vitals of the ship are rendered more secure by a heavy protective deck. The forward conning tower is a mass of Harvey steel, the armour being 14 in. thick; while the protection of the after tower is 3 in. thick. The armament, which is of Elswick design, is of the best. There are 4 12-in. (two forward and two aft), and 14 6-in. quick-firers, 20 12-pounders, 8 3-pounders, and 4 2½ pounder guns, besides 4 submerged torpedo tubes. The manipulation of the turntables and all the operations of loading and laying the guns are performed by hydraulic power, and all the guns and gunners are sheltered by heavy armour shields which revolve with the turntables. The *Asahi* on reaching Japan will be used as the leading flagship of the Navy. The Admiral's cabin, ward rooms, etc., are luxuriously fitted, and a perfect system of electric lights and telephones are used throughout.

COMMERCIAL.

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 5th October.—There have been no fresh supplies. Quotations for Formosa are:—\$96.00 to \$96.50; no sales.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 5th October.—Some demands having come from the mainland, prices are consequently further advancing. Quotations are:—
Shekloong, No. 1, White.....\$7.80 to \$7.85 per cwt.
do. " 2, White..... 6.93 to 6.97 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ... 5.20 to 5.25 "
do. " 2, Brown ... 5.08 to 5.13 "
Swatow, No. 1, White..... 7.85 to 7.90 "
do. " 1, White..... 6.95 to 7.00 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown ... 5.10 to 5.15 "
do. " 2, Brown ... 4.95 to 5.00 "
Foochow Sugar Candy.....11.28 to 11.33 "
Shekloong "10.10 to 10.15 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Preussen*, sailed on the 20th September. For Suez:—10 cases glass bangles. For Odessa:—100 boxes cassia. For Odessa Trieste:—250 boxes cassia. For Genoa:—135 bales raw silk, 23 cases private effects. For Trieste:—125 bales rattanshavings. For Antwerp:—250 bales split bamboo, 231 rolls matting, 200 bales broken cassia, 180 bales feathers. For Antwerp/Hamburg:—107 cases bristles. For Antwerp/Hamburg/London:—1,050 boxes cassia, 30 bales broken cassia, 75 boxes gall-nuts, 46 boxes bristles. For Amsterdam:—400 casks preserves, 59 rolls matting, 20 boxes Chinaware, 10 boxes teastick. For Amsterdam Rotterdam:—74 casks ginger, 50 bales split bamboo, 25 boxes cassia. For Rotterdam:—160 casks ginger, 2 cases Chinaware. For London:—590 rolls matting, 700 cases preserves, 50 bales canes. For Bremen:—154 rolls matting. For Bremen/Hamburg:—12 cases Chinaware, 4 cases fans, 1 case silverware. For Hamburg:—1,930 pkgs. tea, 200 boxes cassia, 170 bales feathers, 169 rolls matting, 100 bales broken cassia, 88 cases bristles, 88 bales canes, 30 boxes Chinapaper, 18 boxes teastick, 14 cases curios, 12 cases human hair, 7 cases blackwoodware, 5

cases bambooware, 3 cases palmleaffans, 2 cases Chinaware. For Hamburg/London:—50 boxes bristles, 3 cases human hair. For Copenhagen:—50 casks preserves.

Per steamer *Sibiria*, sailed on the 20th Sept. For Havre:—5 cases China ink, 6 cases bird-feathers, 8 cases blackwoodware, 14 cases ylang ylang, 14 cases shells, 20 cases bristles, 22 bales feathers, 24 cases cantharides, 40 cases human hair, 49 cases Chinaware, 542 pkgs. canes, 867 rolls mats, 1,079 pkgs. tea. For Havre and/or Bordeaux:—54 rolls matting. For Havre and/or Hamburg:—3 bags shells, 14 bags beans, 15 cases fans, 18 cases blackwoodware, 29 cases human hair, 38 cases Chinaware, 50 cases paper, 67 pkgs. canes, 73 rolls mats. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London:—20 cases camphor, 40 cases essential oil, 85 cases bristles. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or Antwerp and/or London:—8 cases feathers. For Hamburg:—1 case sundries, 1 case China ink, 1 case ylang ylang, 2 cases paper, 3 cases curios, 4 cases bambooware, 6 cases gongs, 7 cases Chinaware, 8 cases camphor oil, 10 cases essential oil, 10 cases camphor, 65 cases fans, 70 cases rattanware, 100 bales broken cassia, 100 bales rattanshavings, 100 bales feathers, 105 casks wood oil, 190 pkgs. preserves, 231 pkgs. canes, 825 pkgs. crackers. For Hamburg and/or Antwerp:—7 cases bristles. For Antwerp:—20 pkgs. rattanware. For Rotterdam:—200 cases cassia, 750 cases preserves. For Bremen:—50 bales Jute, 97 rolls matting. For Copenhagen:—26 cases preserves, 400 cases cassia. For Lisbon:—1 case provisions, 17 cases Chinaware. For Oporto:—2 cases Chinaware. For Buenos Ayres:—100 pkgs. crackers. For New York:—1 case ylang ylang.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 5th October.—Prices continue to go up, holders being firm. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary\$3.00 to 3.04
" Round, Good quality 3.25 to 3.30
" Long 3.45 to 3.50
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 ... 3.14 to 3.18
" Garden, " No. 1 ... 3.48 to 3.52
" White 4.25 to 4.30
" Fine Cargo 4.40 to 4.45

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 5th October.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*.—50 bales No. 6 at \$76, 50 bales No. 8 at \$85, 1,150 bales No. 10 at \$87 to \$95, 750 bales No. 12 at \$88 to \$95, 350 bales No. 16 at \$96 to \$102, 1,050 bales No. 20 at \$96 to \$100.

COTTON YARN—
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....\$78.00 to \$109.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs. 2.25 to 2.35
7 lbs. 2.55 to 2.65
8.4 lbs. 3.10 to 3.85
9 to 10 lbs. 3.90 to 4.75
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. 2.65 to 2.85
58 to 60 " 3.40 to 4.20
64 to 66 " 4.50 to 5.55
Fine 5.40 to 8.10
Book-folds. 4.60 to 6.50
Victoria Lawns—12 yards..... 0.80 to 1.65
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y. 1.85 to 2.00
7lbs. (32 "), " 2.15 to 2.40
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs. 2.05 to 3.30
7lbs. (32 "), " 2.65 to 3.05
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) 3.00 to 2.80
Drills, English—40 yds., 14 to }
16 lbs. } 4.40 to 7.30

FANCY COTTONS—
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to }
8 lbs. } 1.55 to 5.00

Brocades—Dyed — to —
Chintzes—Assorted 0.08½ to 0.17
Vivets—Black, 22 in. 0.22½ to 0.60
Velveteens—18 in. 0.20 to 0.22½

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.36 to 2.50
WOOLLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. 0.80 to 1.50
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths 1.25 to 2.50
Long Ells—Scarlet..... 6.40 to 10.00
Assorted..... 6.50 to 10.10

October 6, 1900.]

CHINA OVERLAND TRADE REPORT.

279

Camlets—Assorted	12.50	to	32.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches } Assorted	8.00	to	20.00
Orleans—Plain	8.50	to	10.00
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	4.00	to	18.00
METALS—			
Iron—Nail Rod	4.80	to	—
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.)	4.80	to	—
Swedish Bar	7.00	to	—
Small Round Rod	5.25	to	—
Hoop 1/2 to 1 1/2 in.	5.50	to	—
Wire 5/25	8.50	to	—
Old Wire Rope	2.50	to	—
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	10.25	to	—
Australian	10.20	to	—
Yellow M'tal—Muntz 14/20 oz.	37.00	to	—
Vivian's 14/20 oz.	37.00	to	—
Elliot's 14/20 oz.	37.00	to	—
Composition Nails	65.00	to	—
Japan Copper, Slabs	40.00	to	—
Tin	81.00	to	—
SUNDRIES—			
Tin-Plates	7.25	to	—
Steel 1/2 to 2	6.50	to	—
Quicksilver	162.00	to	—
Window Glass	5.30	to	—
Kerosene Oil	2.58	to	—

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 5th October.—The market has been very quiet during the week, but rates continue steady and there are but few changes to report.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been placed in small lots at 311, 312 and 313, closing quiet at 312 per cent prem. Nationals unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders continue on offer at \$57 without finding buyers, and a point lower would doubtless find sellers. The directors of the Company recommend a dividend of \$4 per share. Cantons and Unions are still enquired for at quotations without bringing any shares on the market. Yangtzes, North Chinas and Straits remain unchanged and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs are steady at \$295 but without business. Chinas are obtainable at \$77 with sales.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have ruled very steady at \$31 1/2 with sales and buyers, market closing at \$31 1/2. Indo-Chinas have changed hands at \$86, closing with sellers. Douglasses have been placed at \$41 and a few more are enquired for at that rate. A few China and Manilas (new issue) have found buyers at \$28. China Mutuals unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—Both China Sugars and Luzons continue neglected with sellers at quotations.

MINING.—Punjoms is almost at a standstill under this heading and rates with the exception of Raubs are all lower. Punjoms, Olivers and Caledonians have all been on offer without inducing buyers to come forward. A few Jebebus have been placed at quotations and some Queens have changed hands at 10 cents. Raubs have been enquired for at \$55 but holders are not inclined to part at present rates. The General Managers of Olivers report last month's crushing 287 oz. from 495 tons, mill running for 26 days.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong Whampoa Docks continue quiet with sellers and no sales at \$45 per cent. prem. Kowloon Wharves after a few further sales of new issue at \$57 and \$58 are quoted at \$85, the \$25 prem. on the new shares having been now paid, both old and new are quoted the same. Wanchais unchanged without business.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue from with sales and buyers at \$180 and sales at \$188 for December. Hotels remain out of the market. West Points have been placed at \$51 1/2, closing steady at that rate. Humphreys continue quiet at \$11 sellers with small sales. Hotel Orientals have been done at \$53.

COTTON MILLS.—No business to report.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have been placed at \$19 1/2 and \$20. Watsons at \$15 1/2.

Fenwicks at \$49 and United Asbestos at \$84. China Borneos have been enquired for at \$30. Electrics and China Providents have been on offer during the week at quotations.

MEMOS.—Union Insurance, yearly meeting on 11th inst. Canton Insurance, yearly meeting on 13th inst. China Traders, yearly meeting on 23rd inst. Transfer books closed from 9th to 23rd inst. Hongkong Electrics, second call of \$1 on new issue payable on 1st November. Tenders are invited for 4,104 unissued new shares up to 20th inst. Olivers Freehold, "B" shares forfeited on 17th inst. unless final call of 50 cents paid by that date.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai	\$125	312 p. ct. prem. =
China & Japan, ordy.	\$4	\$1.
Do. deferred	\$1	\$5 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares		\$26, buyers
B. Shares	\$8	\$26, buyers
Foun. Shares	\$8	\$20.
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	\$1	\$1 1/2, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$20.
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9.50, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$110, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Laoou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 375.
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 40.
Hongkong	\$100	\$10, sellers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$8, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$49, sales & buyers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$10 1/2.
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$118.
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$10 1/2, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$170, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$119.
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$166, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$85, sales
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$170, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$45 p. ct. prem.
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$135, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$77.
China Traders'	\$25	\$56, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$295, buyers
North-China	\$25	Tls. 165.
Straits	\$20	\$1.
Union	\$50	\$265, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$121, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$50	\$180, buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$10.75, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$25 1/2, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$51 1/2, sales & bys.
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$35, buyers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$250, buyers
Gt. Estn. & C'donian	\$3	15 cents, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	40 cents
Jebebu	\$5	\$8, sellers
Queen's Mines Ltd.	25c.	10 c., sales & sells.
Olivers Mines, A.	\$5	\$24.
Do. B.	\$4 1/2	\$1.80, sellers
Punjom	\$8	\$31, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	80 cents, sellers
Raubs	16s. 10d.	\$55.
New Amoy Dock	\$6 1/2	\$20 1/2, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$65, sales
China Mutual Pref.	\$10	\$10 15s., buyers
China Ordinary	\$10	\$10 5s., a. & bys.
Do.	\$5	\$5, buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$41, sales & buys.
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$31 1/2.
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$86, buyers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	\$100	\$2 18s.
Star Ferry	\$10	\$18, \$4 1/2, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$3	\$2.
United Asbestos	\$4	\$81.
Do.	\$10	\$20.
Wanchai Warehouse	\$37 1/2	\$40, sales & buys.
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$10, sales & sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$15.60, buyers
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$5 1/2, buyers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 5th October.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/0 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	2/1
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/1 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.61 1/2
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.67
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.13
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	50 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	51 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	156
Bank, on demand	156 1/2
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	156
Bank, on demand	156 1/2
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight	72 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	1 1/2 p.c. dis.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	125
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	2 1/2 p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	2 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	60
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	9.60
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	50.75
BAR SILVER, per oz.	29 1/2

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON.—Bengal (str.), Glengyle (str.), Malacca (str.), Tamba Maru (str.), Malta (str.), Candia (str.), Idomeneus (str.), Patroclus (str.), Agamemnon (str.).
FOR MARSEILLES.—Tamba Maru (str.), Indus (str.), Malta (str.).
FOR BREMEN.—Sachsen (str.), Saxonica (str.).
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Konigsberg (str.), Sarnia (str.), Bamberg (str.), Saxonica (str.).
FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Victoria (str.).
FOR VANCOUVER VIA SHANGHAI.—Empress of China (str.).
FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—Doric (str.), Hongkong Maru (str.), China (str.).
FOR NEW YORK.—Anapa (str.), Candia (str.), Maria de Larrinaga (str.), Asturia (str.).
FOR AUSTRALIA.—Changsha (str.), Yawata Maru (str.).
FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.—Bormida (str.).
FOR SAN DIEGO.—Carlisle City (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

September—
ARRIVALS.
28. Humber, British storeship, from Shanghai.
29. Uganda, British transport, from Calcutta.
29. Mohawk, British cruiser, from Swatow.
29. Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Amoy.
29. Tiger, Norwegian str., from Moji.
29. Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
29. Thales, British str., from Swatow.
29. Wongkoi, German str., from Bangkok.
29. Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.
29. Melpomene, Austrian str., from Shanghai.
29. Landaura, British transport, from Calcutta.
29. Sandakan, German str., from Sandakan.
29. Lyeomoon, German str., from Canton.
30. Whampoa, British str., from Canton.
30. Hermea, Norwegian str., from Canton.
30. Korea, Russian transport, from Odessa.
30. Akashi Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
30. Alcinous, British str., from Shanghai.
30. Anping, British str., from Shanghai.
30. Hailong, British str., from Swatow.
30. Laos, French str., from Marseilles.
30. Sarnia, German str., from Hamburg.
30. E. J. Ray, Amr. bark, from Shanghai.

October 6, 1900

October—

- 1, Loodiana, British transport, from Calcutta.
 1, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 1, Adamastor, Portuguese cr., from Macao.
 1, Energia, British str., from Sydney.
 1, Bellerophon, British str., from Java.
 1, Hamburg, German str., from Yokohama.
 1, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 1, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 1, Obi, British str., from Barry.
 1, Marco Minghetti, Italian transport, from Taku.
 1, Singapore, Italian transport, from Taku.
 1, Nanyang, German str., from Haiphong.
 2, Maria Teresa, Austrian str., from Odessa.
 2, Empress of China, Brit. str., from V'couver.
 2, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 2, Adato, British transport, from Barry.
 2, Queen Margaret, British bk., from N. York.
 3, Bingo Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 3, Siam, British str., from Bangkok.
 3, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
 3, Fazilka, British transport, from W'haiwei.
 3, Kwanglee, British str., from Canton.
 3, Oldenburg, German str., from Bremen.
 4, Choyasang, British str., from Canton.
 4, Malacca, British str., from Yokohama.
 4, Urala, British transport, from Calcutta.
 4, Agamemnon, British str., from Liverpool.
 4, Formosa, British str., from Weihaiwei.
 4, Kyoto Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 4, Menmuir, British str., from Manila.
 4, Taishun, Amr. str., from Haiphong.
 4, Tamsui Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
 4, Yiksang, British str., from Swatow.
 4, Mombassa, British transpt., from W'haiwei.
 4, Takichio, Japanese cruiser, from Amoy.
 4, Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.
 4, S. Rickmers, British str., from Palambang.
 4, Port Arthur, British str., from Singapore.
 4, Taiwan Maru, Jap. str., from Mororan.
 4, Canton River, British dredger, from S'pore.
 4, Yedo Maru, Jap. str., from Keelung.
 4, Germania, German str., from Moji.
 5, Palancotta, British transpt., from Taku.
 5, Anping, British str., from Canton.
 5, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
 5, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 5, Onsang, British str., from Java.
 5, State of Maine, Amr. ship, from N. York.
 5, Sierra Cordora, British ship, from Cardiff.
- September—
 29, Malta, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Clyde, British str., for Europe.
 29, Gera, German transport, for Shanghai.
 29, No. 90, Ger. torpedo-boat, for Shanghai.
 29, No. 91, Ger. torpedo-boat, for Shanghai.
 29, No. 92, Ger. torpedo-boat, for Shanghai.
 29, Amigo, German str., for Amoy.
 29, Elm Branch, British str., for Moji.
 29, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
 29, Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.
 29, Queen Adelaide, British str., for Tacoma.
 29, Kwanglee, British str., for Canton.
 29, Marie Jebson, German str., for Amoy.
 29, Daphne, German str., for Nagasaki.
 29, C. Apar, British str., for Calcutta.
 29, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 29, Rohilla, British str., for Yokohama.
 30, Topgallant, Amr. bark, for Port Townsend.
 30, Taisang, British str., for Swatow.
 30, Tritos, German str., for Saigon.
 30, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 30, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
 30, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 30, Loyal, German str., for Bangkok.
 30, Muttra, British transport, for Calcutta.
 30, Decima, German str., for Haiphong.
 30, Choyasang, British str., for Canton.
- October—
 1, Uganda, British transport, for Taku.
 1, Korea, Russian str., for Taku.
 1, Laos, French str., for Shanghai.
 1, Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
 1, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 1, Anping, British str., for Canton.
 2, Redpole, British gunboat, for Shanghai.
 2, Whampoa, British str., for Shanghai.
 2, Nuen Fung, German str., for Taku.
 2, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 2, Pronto, German str., for Chofoo.
 2, Fitzclarence, British str., for Sourabaya.
 2, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 2, Chwnshan, British str., for Swatow.
 2, Itaura, British transport, for Taku.
 3, Umta, British transport, for Taku.
 3, Hamburg, German str., for Europe.

- 3, Anping Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 3, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
 3, Norwood, British ship, for New York.
 3, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 3, Kaifong, British str., for Manila.
 3, Tiger, Norwegian str., for Moji.
 3, Alcious, British str., for London.
 3, Hailoong, British str., for Haiphong.
 3, Nanchang, British str., for Samarang.
 3, Chowtai, German str., for Bangkok.
 3, Melpomene, Austrian str., for Bombay.
 4, Oldenburg, German str., for Shanghai.
 4, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 4, Sarnia, German str., for Nagasaki.
 4, Gloucester City, British str., for Sourabaya.
 4, Kwanglee, British str., for Shanghai.
 4, Choyasang, British str., for Swatow.
 4, Loodiana, British transport, for Taku.
 4, Nuddea, British transport, for Taku.
 4, Warora, British transport, for Taku.
 4, Wardha, British transport, for Taku.
 5, Fazilka, British transport, for Bombay.
 5, Singapore, Italian transpt., for Singapore.
 5, Marco Minghetti, Ital. transpt., for S'pore.
 5, Landaura, British transport, for Taku.
 5, Nawab, British transport, for Taku.
 5, Formosa, British transport, for Bombay.
 5, Malacca, British str., for London.
 5, Hue, French str., for Hoihow.
 5, Bingo Maru, Jap. str., for London.
 5, Sachem, Amr. bark, for New York.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports. Mr. and Mrs. Schlee and child, Messrs. J. B. Marshall and J. W. Odell and 116 Chinese.

Per *Kwanglee*, from Shanghai, Messrs. Wyon and Morrison.

Per *Esmeralda*, from Manila, Mr. Aldrich and Mrs. Earl.

Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Messrs. W. B. Williams, A. Heiman, J. Kennedy, Mr. and Mrs. Fuset, Mrs. Bestevick, Mrs. Raimovist, Mrs. J. Weinhart, Mrs. E. Stewart and Mrs. M. West.

Per *Laos*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Basto, Mr. Borkmann; from Colombo, Mr. Magget; from Singapore, Mr. Nestor Braibant, Mr. J. Bonnet, Miss Bigrne, Rev. Brun, Mrs. Jany Marin, Mr. and Mrs. Pautuch, Mr. Aug. Labastide, Mr. Marins, Mrs. Macdonald and infant; from Saigon, Mr. R. Lamort and Mrs. Affret and infant.

Per *Hamburg*, from Yokohama, &c., Mrs. Hamilton, Mr. Adamson, Misses Edgerton, Mr. Bornemann, Mr. Mareal and family, Messrs. Kelfe and Hunter.

Per *Wingsang*, from Shanghai, Mr. Deas.

Per *Empress of China*, for Hongkong, from Vancouver, Sir Thos. Jackson, Mrs. E. Y. Miller, Mrs. C. E. Reese, Messrs. S. Mast, C. H. Balfour, Rev. and Mrs. Warnshins; from Yokohama, Messrs. A. E. Asgar, R. J. Gerrard, H. W. Fraser, Mrs. and Miss Lysaught, Miss Bond, Rev. F. F. Johnson, Capt. Clement, Mrs. Rolfe and infant, Mrs. Payne, Miss Underwood and Capt. Tillett; from Kobe, Mrs. and Miss Scott, Mrs. Bruton and child; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. E. Lane and Mr. D. M. Gutierrez.

Per *Oldenburg*, for Hongkong, from Bremen, Messrs. Heinr. Oldson, C. F. H. Drecoll and Georg Kruger; from Southampton, Messrs. T. G. Gowland and John Aheins; from Genoa, Messrs. Otto Becker and Rob. Weber; from Ismailia, Mr. A. E. Bennett; from Colombo, Messrs. Aldes and L. Goldenberg; from Singapore, Messrs. E. T. McCarthey, Ellinger and Tony Weiss.

Per *Malacca*, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Coleman and infant, Lieut. D. Berrie and Mr. N. G. Woodeson.

Per *Menmuir*, from Manila, Messrs. Balland and Francisco, Dr. Cabout, Mr. C. F. Brown, Miss V. Pendo, Mr. F. Pendo, Mr. A. Pendo and two children, Miss C. Lopez, Miss L. Reyes, Messrs. Hershey, P. J. Kildney, J. Consump, A. Alexander and R. Masa.

DEPARTED.

Per *Malta*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mr. C. H. Butler; from London, Mrs. and Miss Blackburn; from Marseilles, Messrs. Hill, infant and child, Eckford, Smith, Hammond, Hunter, Robertson and infant, Miss

Jamieson, Mrs. Wall, Messrs. Brennan, Cumming and Hall; from Port Said, Lieutenant Russel; from Colombo, Capt. Sherbourne.

Per *Clyde*, from Nagasaki, for Singapore, Captain White; from Shanghai, for London, Mrs. Taylor and family, Miss and Master Hunt, Rev. A. Holland, Rev. and Mrs. H. J. Squire and family, Miss M. J. Williams, Miss H. Johansen and Mr. F. C. Leonard; for Brindisi, Rev. J. Jeremias; for Marseilles, Sir John Lister Kaye; for Bombay, Mr. A. H. Heath; from Hongkong, for London, Mr. J. Helbling and Mrs. C. G. Grant; for Bombay, Messrs. C. Abdoola and B. C. Bomanjee; for Penang, Miss J. Ellis; for Singapore, Messrs. Vicente Reyes, Rafael Hidalgo, José Sabrids, R. Grant and F. W. Kelly.

Per *Rohilla*, from Hongkong, for Nagasaki, Commanders Hickley and Dampier, R.N.; for Kobe, Mr. S. Abdoolaily; for Yokohama, Mr. W. N. Humphreys.

Per *Loonggang*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. S. Horiguchi, Mr. and Mrs. H. Kuranaga and Mr. Julian Bargas.

Per *Laos*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mrs. Denis and two children, Mrs. Borde, Messrs. G. Nielsen, Vandenberg, R. B. Begley, C. A. Z. Zellerholm, Revs. Hendes and Desthieux, Mrs. Lechantz, M. West and A. Rozenberg; for Nagasaki, Mrs. Jagniatovoska, Lieut. Lecomte, Messrs. Egtastide, Sacommon, Mr. and Mrs. G. Laznich; for Kobe, Messrs. J. N. Dubash and J. A. Chinoy; for Yokohama, Mrs. C. Ortiz, Messrs. P. Cajegal and J. W. Ironside.

Per *Yuensang*, for Amoy, Rev. and Mrs. A. L. Warnshins, Mrs. F. M. Bostwick, Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Gowland and infant, Miss C. E. Johnston; for Manila, Mrs. Eda Y. Miller, Mrs. C. E. Ruca, Mr. and Mrs. R. Tomi, Mr. and Mrs. T. Kashi, Miss Fanny Manian, Messrs. Jose M. Tagawa and Georg Kruger, Mr. and Mrs. M. Ellinger.

Per *Oldenburg*, from Europe, &c., for Shanghai, Drs. C. Vering, Steffens and Paulun, Messrs. Woas, C. Leitz, Geo. M. Bain, T. Stewart, Seim, M. Kolvaresky, W. Jaeneko, A. Rosenthal, J. Scheer, H. Brandt, Malaroff, Sieper, B. Feldmann, Sisters W. Eckland, H. Klemm, E. Lanze, D. Mickels, B. Neels, M. da Stuhr, Misses A. Ariola, P. Ferruzzi, A. Biettenholz E. Fermann, M. Gold and J. Ellison; for Japan, Messrs. G. Montzelas, Runge, Heitmann, Dr. Abraham and Mr. Osuho; from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Messrs. W. Engelbrecht, P. Lundholm, J. Sten, D. Weiss, P. Sachse, R. C. Stephenson and F. Bornemann; for Nagasaki, Mr. J. Beyant; for Kobe, Messrs. S. Komor and R. A. dos Remedios; for Yokohama, Mr. F. Ribeiro.

Per *Hamburg*, from Japan, for Singapore, Messrs. F. H. Beebe, B. T. Sakai, E. Bauer, J. Hermann, Dr. and Mrs. E. Schworer; for Port Said, Mr. B. Barth; for Genoa, Misses M. Merriam, C. Merriman, Mrs. W. L. Merriman, Messrs. Coapmann and E. Rogers, Capt. Lautenberger, Mrs. Buchheister and son, Messrs. S. Shioi, K. Yamaguchi, S. Iwaya, J. Ryttenberg and Prof. Letourner; for London, Mrs. Bruce and child, Mrs. Christie and child, Mrs. Fulton and child, Messrs. Pullen and family, Grant and family and G. C. Parsons; from Shanghai, for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Thurston and Mr. C. P. Thurston; for Genoa, Messrs. J. O. P. Bland, S. Hanish, H. Locksmith, P. Bukow, B. A. Mathias, H. Schoppenhaner, Frohlich, P. Calendar and B. M. Perkins; for London, Mr. Grant and family, Mrs. Hodge, Mrs. Gedy and child, Mrs. Pullan and children, Messrs. E. Wilkins, Newmarch, Wm. Ballontyne, Glasson, Cornway and family, Misses Guthrie, Modacalfo and Dagerstein; for Antwerp, Mr. L. L. F. de Greve and Mrs. J. Trojel; for Bremen, Messrs. A. Meyer and Kugel, Mr. and Mrs. J. Lorentzen; from Hongkong, for Singapore, Miss A. Fredericksen, Messrs. N. Skuzawa, M. Sazoki, K. Kuahibi, W. Schmidt, E. Ogilvie, G. Wilton, H. Scheen, F. Marriott, A. McDonald, G. Adams and F. Wodemeyer; for Colombo, Mr. W. Rhodes James; for Port Said, Mr. G. W. Kolb; for Genoa, Messrs. O. Reiniger, A. Heimann, J. H. Means, Mr. and Mrs. Schlee, Mr. and Mrs. Schnerch, Mrs. Carles and child; for London, Mr. W. Insall.

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